Singapore Education at a Glance
A Tiny Island Nation with a World-Class Education System

Top Performing Students
On PISA 2012, among 65 participating countries, Singapore ranked

2nd in mathematics
3rd in reading and science

Even though 15-year-olds in Singapore are two full years ahead of their U.S. counterparts in mathematics.

55% Singapore students who took PISA don’t speak the language of the assessment at home.

Primary School
Total students in Singapore’s primary schools, similar to the U.S. state of North Dakota’s 251,001 total primary students

$9,304 Yearly spending per primary student, less than the U.S.’s $10,959 per student per year

Secondary School
Total students in Singapore’s secondary schools, similar to the U.S. state of New Mexico’s 195,432 total secondary students

$12,421 Yearly spending per secondary student, close to the U.S.’s $12,740 per student per year

Post-Secondary School
After completing secondary schooling:

Students choose to attend junior colleges – two-year programs leading directly to university studies

Students choose to enroll in Polytechnics – diploma programs offering a wide range of programs to prepare students for careers or for further study in university

Students choose to enroll in the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) – offering skills certifications through training and apprenticeships, which may lead to further study at polytechnics

83,894 Students enrolled in one of Singapore’s six Universities