Almost 2,600 apply to join Yale-NUS

Apart from grades and interviews, extra-curricular achievements will also be given weight in evaluation process

SINGAPORE – Almost 2,600 applications from students across 72 nationalities have been received by Yale-NUS College, the Republic’s first liberal arts college.

Giving the update in a press release yesterday, Yale-NUS said that more than 60 students — among the 96 who were admitted in May after several weeks of deliberation — had accepted a place.

Another 65 students were offered a place this month, and they have until May 1 to reply with their decisions.

Following the two rounds of admissions, Yale-NUS has started its third. The college will open its doors to an inaugural batch of 150 students in August.

Yale-NUS Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Jeremiah Quinlan said: “After visiting more than 35 countries on five different continents in the past year, Yale-NUS has received an incredible number of applications from top students in Singapore and around the world.”

Singaporean students who apply with their preliminary results will be able to send in their A Levels results in March to supplement their applications.

The college said it employs “a holistic approach” to the evaluation of applicants.

“While academic achievement as reflected in examinations grades is a primary consideration, interviews, recommendations, essays and extracurricular accomplishments are also given significant weight in the process,” it said.

Mr Pericles Lewis, Yale-NUS President, added: “In particular, we are looking for young people with demonstrated leadership potential, an appetite to become critical thinkers, and the motivation to make the best use of the College’s extraordinary resources.”