

Recruitment agency to provide scholarships for needy ITE nursing students

On Nurses' Day, The GMP Group is giving away \$12,000 worth of scholarships to deserving ITE nursing students

Singapore, 20 July 2012 – Nursing student, Ms Teo Mei Shan, was a graphic designer, zoo keeper and beautician before she finally decided that a career in nursing is her true calling. And it was only after much encouragement from one of her regular facial customers, who was a staff nurse, that Ms Teo finally decided to enrol for the *Nitec* in Nursing programme at the Institute of Technical Education.

"It was tough in the beginning especially when I didn't have a biology background and had stopped studying for a long time," said the 27-year-old Ms Teo. "But I know that a nursing career is something that I really want and I have to persevere."

The road for Ms Teo has been an uphill one especially since she was supporting her elderly mother before she resigned from her beautician job. Since enrolling for the nursing programme, she has been living on her past savings to pay for her studies and personal expenses. Her married sister and brother are helping her shoulder the burden of family expenses.

But the student, who has a perfect Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4 points- is setting her sights higher. "I feel relieved to receive this scholarship as I can be assured of support to tide me over my education. I am very grateful (to The GMP Group), as without such support, it is really quite tough."

Ms Teo is one of the many students that The GMP Group has helped since the scholarship programme started in 2010. Over the last two years, 30 students have benefitted from the bond-free scholarships and many have gone on to pursue a diploma in nursing. Another 10 students will receive the scholarship this year during the Nurses' Day celebration at ITE College East on 20 July 2012.

One of last year's scholarship recipients, Mr Brandon Chia, who is pursuing a diploma in nursing with Ngee Ann Polytechnic now, said: "The scholarship really motivated me to do well and helped me financially." Mr Brandon Chia is also the recipient for the CE ExcellenCE Award for the Class of December 2011, and the Lee Kuan Yew Gold Medal in 2012. In his graduation speech, Mr. Chia thanked The GMP Group for the financial support.

"As a recruitment agency, we are aware that Singapore is in need of more nursing professionals," said Mr Josh Goh, assistant director of corporate services at The GMP Group. He added that besides helping the deserving nursing students, the scholarship aims to help the national talent crunch of nurses and paramedics by building up a bigger talent pool of nursing professionals in Singapore.

Unlike other scholarship programmes which assess the scholarship applicant mainly on his/her GPA score, The GMP Group takes into consideration the student's family per capita income and also the student's interest in a nursing career.

Mr Goh said: "We know of a number of ITE students who come from disadvantaged backgrounds. Despite that, these scholarship recipients have displayed tenacity and have the potential to do exceptionally well in their studies and careers.

"We want these exceptional individuals to have the best opportunities to overcome their initial challenges and actualise their full potential."

About The GMP Group

Founded in 1991, The GMP Group is one of Asia's leading staffing and human resource consultancies. Since its inception, the group has progressed to become a regional human capital solutions provider across all industries. With six specialist divisions dedicated to providing industry-specific HR solutions, GMP prides itself as a truly 'one-stop' solution. Today, GMP is headquartered in Singapore with offices in Hong Kong, Malaysia, Shanghai and Thailand. The group's extensive network and comprehensive services once again reaffirm GMP's role as one of the most dynamic staffing professionals in the region. For more information, please visit www.gmprecruit.com

About Institute of Technical Education

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE), a statutory board under the Ministry of Education, is a post-secondary institution that provides pre-employment training to secondary school leavers and continuing education and training to working adults.

Since its establishment on 1 April 1992, ITE has developed itself into an institution well-known for its provision of a broad-based, multi-disciplinary curriculum that encompasses courses in Applied & Health Sciences, Business & Services, Design & Media, Electronics & Info-Comm Technology and Engineering.

About ITE College East

At ITE College East, we have a commitment towards helping students explore new opportunities, experience new approaches, develop new talents and overcome learning barriers. We strive to be an education hub that integrates the learning needs of students, staff, industry and community and provide a supportive environment to nurture the enterprising spirit of students and staff.

For more information, please visit http://ce.ite.edu.sg/college_east/index.aspx

For more information, please contact:

Mr. Josh Goh
Assistant Director, Corporate Services
The GMP Group
Tel: 6736 2022
Mobile: 9695 9869
Email: josh.goh@gmprecruit.com

Ms. Christine Ting
Senior Executive, Corporate Services
The GMP Group
Tel: 6736 2022
Mobile: 9750 7056
Email: christine.ting@gmprecruit.com

Ms. Jamie Chan
Head/Media
Institute of Technical Education
Tel: 65902026
Mobile: 98450910
Email: jamie_chan@ite.edu.sg