

Application Summary

Name:
GOYAL SAMIK

Record Last Updated On:
16-Jun-2026 08:00 PM (SINGAPORE TIME)

Personal Details

Salutation :

Mr

Full Name :

GOYAL SAMIK

Family Name / Surname :

GOYAL

Given Name :

SAMIK

Gender :

Male

Date of Birth :

17/03/2028

Postal Code :

Block / House Number :

Street Name :

Building Name :

Floor and Unit Number :

State / City :

Country :

INDIA

Login Mode :

Google

Citizenship :

INDIAN

Residential Status :

FOREIGNER

Race / Ethnic Group :

Indian

Religion :

Hindu

Marital Status :

Single

NRIC Number / FIN :

Passport Number :

Email Address :

Alternative Email :

Mobile :

Home Telephone :

Name of Next of Kin / Guardian :

[REDACTED]

Mobile :

[REDACTED]

Relationship with Applicant :

[REDACTED]

Home Telephone :

Occupation :

[REDACTED]

Choice of Study

Single Degree Programme

Ranking	Programme	Preferred Major
1	Common Computer Science Programmes	Computer Science

Double Degree (DDP), Concurrent Degree (CDP), Double Major, Minor & Specialisation Programmes

Ranking	Programme
1	Business Administration & Computer Science

Do you wish to be considered for NUS College?

Yes

NUS College Application

II. Reflection on Non-Academic Activities

Reflect on your non-academic activities, in about 350 words.

You may have undertaken non-academic activities as part of a co-curriculum, or in a more informal way (e.g., as a hobby). Reflect on them: explain to us a larger or deeper meaning behind these activities, or behind your participation in them.

We say "activities" (plural) because we would like you to connect some or all of the things you did outside the classroom, or even to detect a pattern in them. And when we say "larger or deeper meaning," we mean that we would like you to think about and explain something that may not be readily apparent about your activities. You should do so in a specific and carefully-reasoned way: for example, rather than just state generalities about how you volunteer because you want to help people, consider explaining what *particular* lessons you learnt about helping others, and/or *how* you learnt these lessons.

The subject of your reflection can be your actual non-academic activities. Or, you can choose to explain and reflect on:

- Your motivations (e.g., What was the rationale or principle behind what you chose to be involved, or not involved, with?);
- Your time management and decision-making (e.g., If you spent more time on some activities and interests than others, how did you make choices about what you prioritized?); or
- What your activities reveal about you (e.g., Did you participate in a wide-ranging number of activities, or do your activities revolve around one or a few main interests and themes? Were your interests steady and consistent, or did they change and evolve over the years?).

What you should *not* do in this section is simply list your non-academic activities or achievements. Near the end of this application process, you will be able to upload your Co-Curricular Activity Records, and/or documentation of your non-academic pursuits. (If you are unable to provide any documentation, you can explain why here—but you must still reflect on your non-academic activities in this section.) These uploads will already paint a picture of *what* non-academic activities you have undertaken. In this reflection, we want to hear more about the *whys* and *hows*.

(OPTIONAL) Finally, you can provide any needed contextualisation, if relevant. Sometimes, records make more sense if we understand their contexts and even constraints. For example, perhaps your school did not offer a co-curriculum, or limited students to a fixed number of co-curricular activities. Maybe you created your own extra-curricular opportunities that you would like us to know about. Perhaps you had to forgo some overseas experiences because of health concerns or family commitments. Perhaps you would have loved to be involved in some activities but did not have the opportunity to do so. You may also include this information in your reflection.

I grew up in an ivory tower, a modern university campus with some of the best infrastructure in the country, situated in the middle of a village in a tier-2 city. Every day, I went through the gate, observing the difference, going from a multicultural hub to people speaking exclusively in the regional language. This meant that neither my school nor my seniors knew much beyond the entrance examinations, which led me to embark on a journey to explore opportunities and build my own pathways.

While attending the Olympiad training camp, I saw that most of the students were from big cities, especially well-resourced private schools with established guidance systems. It made me realise that access was often less about ability and more about early exposure and guidance.

I have worked on this issue myself with my startup SPOI. In SPOI, I have experimented with ways to teach informatics online that do not require a teacher or mentor. I worked on creating online resources that a student could engage with independently.

However, I realised that students in rural schools near me faced even more basic material barriers to opportunities. In India, the government provides public schools with uniforms, books, and even computers. However, basic items such as notebooks, pens, pencils, and food utensils are not provided. They are usually sourced through NGOs and donations. But most NGOs and people help schools in urban areas, while rural schools often go neglected. Through my NGO, Sadhya, I have tried to bridge this gap by assisting such schools with stationery, spoons, and other items.

I also noticed that the people living in the village near me were unable to access the judicial system because judgments were issued in English, a language they did not understand. Moreover, the existing AI translation systems did not perform well on the judgments. Therefore, I decided to research this and created a new system for translating judgments into vernacular languages.

I want to work on this so that access is democratised and the walls of the ivory tower are demolished.

I. How NUS College Fits into Your Plans for NUS

What features of the NUS College curriculum excite you, and how do these features align with your learning goals or values? (100-word response)

NUS College's interdisciplinary curriculum will allow me to complement rigorous technical theory with the humanities. I am excited to see how these can be used together to create effective educational interventions. By taking STEM Making Connections courses, I will learn how to apply these multidisciplinary approaches to solve problems. Then, I would use this in practice in my IEx project. I will also participate in the Summer International Internship Programme, which will give me real-world experience. At NUS College, I plan to expand my perspective while using what I learn to help the community.

III. Declaration

You should have crafted your responses on your own. In the textbox below, please declare this by typing out this statement: "I affirm that my responses represent my own thinking."

You should not use generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, etc.). Doing so is a breach of academic integrity. More damagingly for you, its use will produce generic reflections that do not represent who you are, and do not portray the kinds of distinctive individuals that we seek to admit. If you do use such tools, you must describe in the textbox what your queries were. If you use sources such as books or websites, you should include citations of these sources. Likewise, if you received help from a mentor, please declare and describe the help as well. But there is no need to declare your use of spelling or grammar checkers.

I affirm that my responses represent my own thinking.

Achievement



Achievement 1



Activity :

Medallist at the International Olympiad competitions

Level :

INTERNATIONAL

Level of Achievement :

Silver Medal

Position Held :

NOT APPLICABLE

From :

07/2025

Name of Activity / Organisation / Employer :

International Olympiad in Informatics 2025

To :

08/2025

Key Contribution Description

I won a silver medal as a part of the Indian delegation.

Achievement 2



Activity :

Medallist at the International Olympiad competitions

Level :

INTERNATIONAL

Level of Achievement :

Silver Medal

Position Held :

NOT APPLICABLE

From :

09/2024

Name of Activity / Organisation / Employer :

International Olympiad in Informatics 2024

To :

09/2024

Key Contribution Description

I won a silver medal as part of the Indian delegation.

Achievement 3



Activity :

Medallist at the International Olympiad competitions

Level :

INTERNATIONAL

Level of Achievement :

Silver Medal

Position Held :

NOT APPLICABLE

From :

08/2025

Name of Activity / Organisation / Employer :

International Olympiad in Artificial Intelligence 2025

To :

08/2025

Key Contribution Description

I won a silver medal as a part of the Indian deligation.

Activity :

Entrepreneurship

Level :

INTERNATIONAL

Level of Achievement :

Not Applicable

Position Held :

NOT APPLICABLE

From :

08/2025

Name of Activity / Organisation / Employer :

Emergent Ventures, Mercatus Center, George Mason University

To :

09/2025

Key Contribution Description

I applied for and pitched the idea of SPOI, my startup, to the Emergent Ventures grant. As a result, I was awarded a grant of USD 11,500.

Short Questions and Answers

1. Tell us something you have done outside your school curriculum to prepare yourself for your chosen degree programme(s).

To develop my research skills, I participated in the Non-Trivial Research Foundations Program, which taught me the basics of research methodology. Then, I worked on a research project, "SubtaskEval", where I created a subtask-based benchmark for evaluating LLMs on coding tasks. This paper was accepted as a poster presentation at the Deep Learning for Code Workshop at NeurIPS 2025. It has also been shortlisted among the top 120 projects to be showcased at the IRIS National Fair 2026. I was also accepted to the RSI-India 2025 program at IISc Bangalore; however, I was unable to attend.

2. Describe an instance when you did not succeed in accomplishing something on your first attempt but succeeded on subsequent attempts. How and what did you learn from your initial failure, and what changes did you make to your approach to eventually succeed?

I started preparing for the Informatics Olympiad in 9th grade. I failed in my first attempt but succeeded in my second. My victory came from my mindset: instead of cramming tricks and methods, I began deriving my solutions from scratch, relying on intuition. For example, a problem involved guiding two agents on a tree to the root. I modelled it in my mind as a network of roads. My solution was inspired by how road signs guide traffic. Similarly, for a sum approximation problem, I thought of how a human would do it, and asked queries which eliminated the largest number of possibilities.

3. Share something that is meaningful to you and explain how it has impacted you in a concrete way.

I started SPOI, a startup that teaches informatics online to school students in India, to fill the gaps in Olympiad preparation that I had faced. This has given me the confidence to start building solutions. When the quality of lectures became an issue, I sought funding to buy better equipment; when turnout for mock competitions dropped, I introduced food-based rewards to encourage participation; and when I noticed students dropping off during long lectures, I introduced TikTok-style, short and dense explanations of topics. I now see obstacles in real life as problems waiting to be solved.

4. What is your proudest achievement, and how did you accomplish it with the help or inspiration from others? Please also explain how it exemplifies some of the five NUS values of Innovation, Resilience, Excellence, Respect and Integrity.

I qualified to compete in both the International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) 2025 and the International Olympiad in Artificial Intelligence (IOAI) 2025, ranking number one in both team selection tests. The catch was that IOI and IOAI overlapped in their dates. Moreover, IOI was conducted in Bolivia, a poorly connected country which was literally halfway across the world from China, where IOAI was conducted. Initially, my dad wanted me to give up on one since he believed doing both would not be possible. However, the Indian organisers provided the counter-perspective I needed: excellence requires calculated risks. Their support and faith in me helped me convince my family that this was a challenge worth fighting for. My travel was over 48 hours, and I had to leave the day after my last contest at the IOI and arrive one day before the first contest at the IOAI. In the end, I managed to win a silver medal at both the olympiads. This was a thrilling experience that taught me I could push past my physical and mental limits to achieve results.

5. Is there anything else about yourself which you want us to know?

Refer to the examples provided in [this link](#).

Watching my all-time favourite comedy, The Simpsons, has become my nightly ritual. While the show can seem silly and meaningless, it lightens my mood and calms my mind. It's my way of destressing after a gruelling study session. The Simpsons also brings my family together to share a laugh. It also affects the way I think, making me not take everything to heart and dwell too long on negativity. When a day goes bad, I step back, almost as if watching a scene unfold. This habit has shaped how I respond to pressure by backing away and then engaging thoughtfully rather than emotionally.

MOE Tuition Grant Declaration

MOE Tuition Grant Declaration

You have declared that you are a Permanent Resident/International Student and have not received any MOE Tuition Grant or other sponsorship/subsidy from the Singapore Government previously for a course of study at the same or a higher level as your new course

Financial Aid

Do you intend to apply for Financial Aid?

Yes

Household Income Information

Gross Monthly Household Income? (in SGD) :

\$8,000 - \$9,999

Total number of family members (inclusive of yourself) staying in the same household :

3

Document Upload



Supporting Documents	File(s)
Passport	02_Passport Front and Back.pdf
Year 11/ Most recent High School Examination results slip	19_11th and 10th Marksheet merged.pdf
National Level High School Examination result slip	20_download_13052026_210505.pdf
SAT score report	26_SAT Score Report.pdf
IELTS results slip	28_IELTS E-TRF.pdf
AP Exam score report	35_AP Score Report.pdf
International Olympiad Competition Medal Certificate	36_722604108_IOI2025_Silver_Email_01052026_073429.pdf 36_International Olympiad Certificates Merged.pdf 36_Samik_Goyal-APIO2026_22052026_162457.pdf
Certificate of Achievement	42_Emergent Ventures Email.pdf