

# MEDIA RELEASE

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30 May 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Update on Private Education Institution Registration and EduTrust Certification

1. As of 30 April 2011, 274 private education institutions (PEIs) have registered under the Enhanced Registration Framework (ERF). Of these, 63 PEIs have been awarded EduTrust certification. Another 107 applications for registration are being processed.

2. The Private Education Act 2009 ("Act"), which came into operation in December 2009, requires PEIs to register with the Council for Private Education (CPE) under the Enhanced Registration Framework. Under the Framework, PEIs have to meet a more stringent set of requirements to provide greater quality assurance, promote consumer awareness. This is beneficial to the long-term development of the private education sector.

3. **Existing PEIs have until 20 June 2011 to register. Any person providing private education after this date, without having lodged an application for registration, will be operating illegally. This is an offence under Section 34(1) of the Act.** The CPE is reaching out to about 100 PEIs that are "deemed registered"<sup>1</sup>, but have yet to apply for ERF. PEIs with enquiries on the enhanced registration framework or requests for assistance can call the following dedicated hotlines set up by CPE at 6499 0607 or 9646 6420.

### Enhanced Registration Framework

4. PEIs may be registered for a period of 1 year, 4 years or 6 years, depending on their degree of compliance with requirements relating to managers, teachers, courses, academic and examination boards, premises and advertisements. A breakdown of PEIs by registration period is in the table below. The full list of ERF-registered PEIs is on CPE's website at [www.cpe.gov.sg](http://www.cpe.gov.sg).

ERF Registration Status	Number of PEIs
PEIs with six-year registration	3
PEIs with four-year registration	84
PEIs with one-year registration	187

<sup>1</sup> Under Section 74 of the Private Education Act, schools previously registered by the Ministry of Education (MOE) under the Education Act would be deemed to be registered as private education institutions for a period of up to 18 months ending on 20 June 2011.

## EduTrust Certification

5. The EduTrust is a voluntary certification scheme with more stringent requirements than the ERF. It serves to distinguish higher quality players in Singapore's private education industry. A breakdown of EduTrust awards is in the table below. The list of EduTrust-certified PEIs is on the CPE's website.

<b>EduTrust Certification Status</b>	<b>Number of PEIs</b>
PEIs with EduTrust Award (four years)	17
PEIs with EduTrust Provisional Award (one year)	46

6. In December 2009, it had been estimated that the private education sector comprised 1,000 PEIs<sup>2</sup>. Since then, the sector has undergone considerable changes and the current status is in the table below.

### State of PEIs as at 30 April 2011

<b>Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
Start - Estimated Number of PEIs as at December 2009	≈1,000
Registered (as at 30 April 2011)	274
Registration Applications Being Processed	107
Other Deemed Registered PEIs (until 20 June 2011)	≈104
Not within scope of the PE Act	138
Consolidated (restructuring, merger or acquisition)	174
Ceased operations/will cease operations	133

## **About the Council for Private Education**

The Council for Private Education (CPE) is a statutory board established in December 2009 to regulate the private education industry. The Council has implemented two schemes – the mandatory Enhanced Registration Framework and the EduTrust Certification scheme – to uplift and maintain standards in the private education sector. Besides its role as a sectoral regulator, the Council also provides student services and public education through its Student Services Centre, and promotes the development of the private education industry. For more information, please visit the CPE website at <http://www.cpe.gov.sg/>.

## **Issued by the Council for Private Education**

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<sup>2</sup> The estimate of 1,000 PEIs was made up of 800 from MOE's register of private schools and external degree programme providers. The remaining 200 was an estimate of private vocational schools, which were previously not required to be registered.