

A competitive salary within reach

A STARTING salary amounting to RM4,000 for a fresh graduate may be unheard of, but that does not mean it is impossible to achieve.

According to a survey by Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC), which focused on aspects such as graduate employability rate and starting salary range from MDEC's Premier Digital Tech Institutions (PDTI), it found that the average starting salary of entry-level digital technology talents from PDTIs is approximately RM4,000 upon joining the workforce.

Among these digital technology talents are graduates from Tunku Abdul Rahman University of Management and Technology (TAR UMT).

Tan Li Ho and Chok Kah Yang are two graduates who completed their Bachelor of Computer Science (Hons) in Software Engineering and are currently working as software developers.

"I started as an intern and after completing my six-month internship, I was offered to join the company full-time," says Tan.

"I learnt a lot during my internship, so I did not think twice about accepting the offer.

"The six-month internship helped me learn how to apply what I have learnt in my degree to real industry work, and hone my interpersonal, communication and problem-solving skills, as a result of working with



To stay ahead of the competition, TAR UMT equips its software engineering graduates with strong fundamentals and relevant skill sets while helping them develop good character.

different teams."

In terms of being offered a high starting salary, around RM4,000, Tan says: "I was a bit surprised at being offered quite a high starting salary considering I am a fresh graduate.

"I am thankful and believe that the dedication and hard work I have shown during my internship with the company played a huge role in this blessing.

"As a TAR UMT student, I have developed a strong sense of continuous learning, discipline and dedication, not only to the task given, but also to be a productive and contributing team member.

"The challenges I faced as a student have helped me grow a lot in terms of knowledge and character-building, and now I am reaping the benefits."

Chok, on the other hand, was

offered a full-time position halfway through his internship period.

"The company where I was doing my internship offered me a full-time position in the third month of my internship," he says.

"As an IT student, I knew about the stiff competition IT graduates have to face to land a job.

"That is why I made sure to

learn and contribute as much as I could every day during my internship.

"Being resourceful and helpful are very important traits to stay ahead of the competition. As a TAR UMT student, I have had many opportunities to strengthen these competencies."

Chok began his career in software development with a monthly salary of more than RM4,500.

"The high salary was a great confidence boost to me. Having strong fundamentals and a deep appreciation for software engineering, thanks to my degree programme at TAR UMT, I demonstrated to the company that I am a fast learner and a good problem solver.

"I always put a lot of effort and initiative into every task that is assigned to me and I produce outcomes and solutions that speak of these very qualities."

For more information about TAR UMT's computing and information technology programmes, or to apply online, visit www.tarc.edu.my. You can also call 011-1075 8554.

Various financial aid and merit scholarships are available for qualified students

