

# 318 SPM holders accepted into UMS Foundation program

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**KOTA KINABALU:** Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) has accepted 318 new Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) graduates into its one-year Foundation in Science programme for the 2014/2015 batch.

The programme, which started in April 26, 2010, received the fifth batch of students seeking to further their education in the Foundation of Science, which is designed in accordance with the pre-University and Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia (STPM) syllabus into a three-semester programme.

According to the vice

chancellor of UMS, Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah, the programme received only 33 students for the first batch of 2010/2011. The number increased to 60 for 2011/2012 and 260 students for 2012/2013 and 2013/2014.

A total of 356 students have graduated from the programme and furthered their studies in degree programmes in UMS. Out of the total, 6% of the graduates continued in medicine, 10% in engineering, 4% in psychology and another 8% in science and technology.

"The students accepted into

this program are very lucky as they are given the opportunity to experience studying in a university environment. However, they have to work very hard as their intensified and short-term syllabus will require them to catch up very fast in order to score well in their examination," Harun said in his speech during the closing ceremony of the Orientation Week of the newly accepted students.

Also present at the ceremony was the director of Science and Technology Preparation Centre of UMS, Dr Sazmal Effendi Arshad.