

Press Release

\$890 Million of GST Vouchers and Medisave Top-Ups for 1.54 Million Singaporeans in 2016

Eligible citizens will receive notification letters on their 2016 GST Voucher (GSTV) and other Budget benefits by 1 July 2016. For more convenience and to be notified earlier, citizens are encouraged to sign up for SMS notifications at www.gstvoucher.gov.sg.

Individual benefits

GSTV - Cash and one-off Cash Special Payment

- About 1.3 million eligible Singaporeans will receive up to \$300 in GSTV Cash. In addition, as announced at Budget 2016, a one-off GSTV Cash Special Payment of up to \$200 will be provided to support households amid current economic conditions.
- This means that eligible GSTV recipients will receive **up to \$500 in cash in 2016**, which will be disbursed in two payments in August 2016 and November 2016.

Medisave Top-Ups

- 4 About 425,000 Singaporeans aged 65 years and above will receive the GSTV Medisave of up to \$450 in August 2016.
- In addition, Singaporeans born on or before 31 December 1959 (57 years and above in 2016) and do not receive Pioneer Generation (PG) benefits will receive a Medisave top-up of up to \$200 each year till 2018. The top-up for this year will also be made in August 2016. In total:
 - A **non-Pioneer aged 65 in 2016** and who is living in an HDB flat (and does not own a second property) can receive **\$450** of Medisave top-ups this year.
- Pioneers would also be receiving their PG Medisave top-ups of \$200 to \$800 in July 2016. Taking both the PG Medisave and GSTV Medisave together:
 - A Pioneer aged 70 in 2016 who is living in an HDB flat (and does not own a second property) will receive \$450 of Medisave top-ups;
 - A **Pioneer aged 85 in 2016** who is living in an HDB flat (and does not own a second property) will receive **\$1,250** of Medisave top-ups.

What this means for you

7 Please see <u>Annex A</u> for more information on the benefits, and <u>Annex B</u> for examples of three Singaporean archetypes, including the household benefits they will receive.

Go paperless - Sign up for SMS GSTV notifications

- 8 Citizens can sign up to receive **more timely SMS notifications** informing them of whether they are eligible for GSTV benefits, instead of waiting for notification letters.
- 9 All GSTV recipients aged 21 to 35 years old will receive a letter asking them to log in to www.gstvoucher.gov.sg with their SingPass, to view their GSTV benefits and sign up for SMS notifications. A small group of other citizens will also receive such letters, while the remaining recipients will continue to receive letters in the current format which lists all of their benefits. Please see Annex C for more details.
- The Government will review whether to do away with hardcopy notification letters in future and only send notifications via SMS in order to go paperless and be more eco-friendly.

Who to contact for more information

Details on the GSTV can be found at www.gstvoucher.gov.sg, and information on the other Budget benefits can be found at www.singaporebudget.gov.sg. If you require more information, the contact details are as follows:

Scheme	Telephone	Email
GSTV – Cash and Medisave Top-Ups	1800-2222-888	contactus@gstvoucher.gov.sg
SingPass	6643-0555	support@singpass.gov.sg

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Issued by Ministry of Finance Singapore 20 June 2016

About the GST Voucher (GSTV)

The permanent GST Voucher scheme was introduced by the Government in Budget 2012 to help lower-income Singaporeans. The GST Voucher is given in three components – Cash, Medisave and U-Save. GST Voucher – Cash provides lower-income Singaporeans with some cash for immediate needs, and is paid every August.

Similarly paid every August is the GST Voucher – Medisave, which provides elderly Singaporeans aged 65 and above with a CPF Medisave account top-up to support their medical needs. Lastly, the GST Voucher – U-Save provides lower- and middle-income Singaporean HDB households with quarterly rebates to offset their utilities bills, and is paid every January, April, July and October.

More information on the GSTV can be found at www.gstvoucher.gov.sg.

About Ministry of Finance

The Ministry of Finance aims to advance the well-being and development of Singapore through Finance. The Ministry strives to achieve a balanced budget through prudent fiscal policy, foster a regulatory environment conducive to business and enterprise, ensure prudent investment of the Government's reserves and other public funds, and sets policies for government procurement, e-government, customs regulation, accounting standards and business regulation.

We achieve this together with our departments (Accountant-General's Department, Singapore Customs, Centre for Public Project Management and Vital – Centre for Shared Services), and statutory boards (Accounting & Corporate Regulatory Authority, Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore and Tote Board).

For more information, please visit www.mof.gov.sg.

Table A1: GSTV - Cash payouts and one-off GSTV - Cash Special Payment for 2016

GST Voucher	Assessable Income for		alue of Home as I Dec 2015
YA 2015 ≤ \$26,000		Up to \$13,000	\$13,001 to \$21,000
Regular – Cash	Cinconorcono agad	\$300	\$150
One-off – Cash Special Payment	Singaporeans aged 21 years and above	\$200	\$100

Payout month: August 2016 for regular GSTV – Cash; November 2016 for one-off GSTV – Cash Special Payment

Table A2: Total Medisave Top-Ups

Includes GSTV – Medisave, Pioneer Generation Medisave Top-Up and/or 5-year Medisave Top-Up

Age in 2016	Amount of Medisave Top-Up
57 to 64 years	Up to \$200
65 to 71 years	Up to \$450
72 to 74 years	Up to \$650
75 to 76 years	Up to \$750
77 to 81 years	Up to \$950
82 to 84 years	Up to \$1,150
85 years and above	Up to \$1,250

What this means for you

1. For example, a **Pioneer couple** (husband aged 80, wife aged 77), living in an HDB flat (and do not own a second property) will receive the benefits below in 2016:

Individual		
\$1,000 in cash (\$300 GSTV – Cash and \$200 GSTV – Cash Special Payment per person)		
\$1,900 in Medisave top-ups (\$350 GSTV – Medisave and \$600 Pioneer Generation Medisave per person)		
Household		
\$180 to \$260 of GSTV – U-Save rebate annually		
1 to 3 months of S&CC rebate		

2. A **retired couple in their 60s** (husband aged 66, wife aged 60) living in an HDB flat (and do not own a second property) will receive the benefits below in 2016:

Individual		
\$1,000 in cash		
(\$300 GSTV – Cash and \$200 GSTV – Cash Special Payment per person)		
\$650 in Medisave top-ups		
(\$200 5-year Medisave Top-Up per person and \$250 GSTV – Medisave for husband)		
Household		
\$180 to \$260 of GSTV – U-Save rebate annually		
1 to 3 months of S&CC rebate		

3. A **lower-income working couple** in their 40s, with both the husband and wife each having a monthly salary of \$2,000, living in an HDB flat (and do not own a second property), will receive the benefits below in 2016:

Individual		
\$1,000 in cash		
(\$300 GSTV – Cash and \$200 GSTV – Cash Special Payment per person)		
Household		
\$180 to 260 of GSTV - U-Save rebate annually		
1 to 3 months of S&CC rebate		

Digitalisation efforts

Important reminder - Get your SingPass 2FA by 4 July 2016

Citizens are reminded to activate their SingPass 2-Step Verification (2FA) by 4 July 2016, so that they can continue to transact safely online and without any disruption. All Singaporeans who have used SingPass to log in to government e-services at least once in the last one year since 5 July 2015, and have registered their mobile number with SingPass, should have received a PIN mailer to allow them to activate their SingPass 2FA via SMS.

From 5 July 2016 onwards, if they have not activated their SingPass 2FA, they will not be able to log in to the GSTV website, or perform other sensitive government e-services, such as filing tax with IRAS and accessing CPF statements. They will have to first register and activate their SingPass 2FA at www.singpass.gov.sg. 2FA activation can take up to seven working days.

Majority of eligible recipients will automatically receive the GSTV

Recipients need not worry if they do not have SingPass to log in to the GSTV website to view their benefits. Most Singaporeans will automatically receive their GSTV payouts and 5-Year Medisave Top-Ups as they had signed up for past government payouts.

For the small number of citizens who have not signed up for past government payouts and/or are not CPF members, the letters they receive will inform them of the actions they need to take by 31 December 2016.

CitizenConnect Centres

Singaporeans without computer or internet access can visit any of the following CitizenConnect Centres (CCCs) around Singapore to get assistance to access the GSTV website to view their benefits, update their contact details and payment modes.

Operating hours for the CCCs at the Community Centres/Clubs are from **9am to 9pm**, **Mondays to Sundays**. The CCCs are closed on public holidays.

CCC Location	Address	Telephone
Central		
Kallang Community Club	45 Boon Keng Road, Singapore 339771	6298-4582 6298-9038
Kim Seng Community Centre	570 Havelock Road, Singapore 169640	6272-3878
Tanjong Pagar Community Club	101 Cantoment Road, Singapore 089774	6221-9898 6223-6847
Toa Payoh Central Community Club	93 Toa Payoh Central, Singapore 319194	6252-1249
Thomson Community Club	194 Upper Thomson Road, Singapore 574339	6254-4550 6251-6344

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Yio Chu Kang Community Club	50 Ang Mo Kio Street 61, Singapore 569163	6457-0414 6456-1324
Northeast		
Eunos Community Club	180 Bedok Reservoir Road, Singapore 479220	6448-6971
Pasir Ris East Community Club	1 Pasir Ris Drive 4 #01-08, Singapore 519457	6584-2798
Sengkang Community Club	2 Sengkang Square, #01-01 Sengkang Community Hub, Singapore 545025	6312-5400
Tampines West Community Club	5 Tampines Avenue 3, Singapore 529705	6783-7910 6788-6202
The Serangoon	10 Serangoon North Ave 2, Singapore 555877	6285-6264
Northwest		
Chong Pang Community Club	21 Yishun Ring Road, Singapore 768677	6758-8258
Fuchun Community Club	1 Woodlands Street 31, Singapore 738581	6365-6911
Ulu Pandan Community Club	170 Ghim Moh Road #01-01, Singapore 279621	6469-3154 6463-7333
Woodlands Community Club	1 Woodlands Street 81, Singapore 738526	6368-9938
Zhenghua Community Club	1 Segar Road, Singapore 677638	6310-6702
Southeast		
Bedok Community Centre	850 New Upper Changi Road, Singapore 467352	6442-5317 6445-0633
Changi Simei Community Club	10 Simei Street 2, Singapore 529915	6781-6058
Marine Parade Community Club	278 Marine Parade Road, Singapore 449282	6346-7703
Southwest	,	
Bukit Batok East Community Club	23 Bukit Batok East Ave 4, Singapore 659841	6565-9330
Chua Chu Kang Community Club	35 Teck Whye Avenue, Singapore 688892	6769-1694

Gek Poh Ville Community Club	1, Jurong West St. 74, Singapore 649149	6792-2750
The Frontier	60 Jurong West Central 3 #01- 01, Singapore 648346	6795-8229
West Coast Community Centre	West Coast Community Centre 2 Clementi West Street 2, Singapore 129605	6779-1098
Yew Tee Community Club	20 Chua Chu Kang Street 52 #01-01, Singapore 689286	6769-3672

Citizens can also visit the IRAS service centre from 8 am to 5 pm on Mondays to Fridays, to access the GSTV website. The centre is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

IRAS service centre		
Revenue House	55 Newton Road, Revenue House, Singapore 307987	6351-3893 6351-3894