

# MAKING SINGAPORE A GREAT PLACE FOR FAMILIES

## Support Measures For Achievable, Enjoyable and Celebrated Parenthood



### HOUSING

*Helping couples to own homes*

#### Faster Access To Housing

- Shorter waiting time of about 2 to 3 years for some BTO flats
  - 2,000 flats with shorter waiting times to be launched in 2019
- **Sale of Balance Flats (SBF)** and **Re-Offer of Balance Flats (ROF)** exercises, as well as open booking of remaining ROF flats throughout the year, to help young couples book a flat faster
- First-timer married couples with or expecting a child enjoy priority under **Parenthood Priority Scheme (PPS)**
- Families awaiting the completion of their new flats can rent a flat from HDB at around half or less than half the market rate, under the **Parenthood Provisional Housing Scheme (PPHS)**
- Student/NSF couples can defer assessment for grant and loan eligibility until just before key collection, instead of at the application stage


#### Help Families Live Closer Together

- **Proximity Housing Grant (PHG)** of up to \$30,000 for families buying a resale flat to live with or near their parents/children (within 4km)
- **3Gen flats, Married Child Priority** and **Multi-Generation Priority Schemes** for those who are buying new flats and wish to live close to family





#### More Affordable Home Ownership

- First-timer families can receive up to \$120,000 in grants when buying a resale flat, and up to \$80,000 when buying a new flat

##### New flats:

	4-room or smaller flats in non-mature estates	All other flats
Additional CPF Housing Grant (AHG)	 Up to \$40,000	
Special CPF Housing Grant (SHG)	 Up to \$40,000	N.A

##### Resale flats:

	4-room or smaller	5-room or larger
CPF Housing Grant	 \$50,000	 \$40,000
Additional CPF Housing Grant (AHG)	 Up to \$40,000	
Proximity Housing Grant (PHG)	 Up to \$30,000	

- **Fresh Start Housing Scheme** to help second-timer families with young children living in public rental flats achieve home ownership again



## COMMUNITY AND WORKPLACE SUPPORT

*Fostering supportive work environments*

### Parental Leave

- 16 weeks of paid **Maternity Leave**
  - Working mothers who are not eligible due to their work arrangements may apply for **Government-Paid Maternity Benefit**
- 2 weeks of paid **Paternity Leave**
- Paid **Shared Parental Leave**: Working fathers can share up to 4 weeks of their spouse's Maternity Leave
- 12 weeks of paid **Adoption Leave** for working adoptive mothers of infants below 1 year old
- Paid **Child Care Leave**:
  - 6 days per year per working parent whose youngest child is under 7 years
  - 2 days per year per working parent whose youngest child is aged 7-12 years
- 6 days of unpaid **Infant Care Leave** per year per working parent with children under 2 years
- Additional 4 weeks of unpaid **Infant Care Leave** for public servants to be taken in child's first year (3-year pilot from 2017)

### Family Bonding

- Embracing PArthood Movement:
  - Initiative by People's Association to celebrate the birth of new Singaporean babies and forge community support for young parents
- ActiveSG's sports programmes
- Family-friendly activities at our museums, parks and other community spaces

### Greater Support for Family-Friendly Workplaces

The Government has introduced the following initiatives to foster family-friendly workplaces that benefit both employers and employees:

- **Tripartite Standard on Flexible Work Arrangements (FWAs)**
  - Encourages companies to offer FWAs and helps employees or job seekers to recognise companies with progressive FWA practices
  - Forms of FWAs include flexi-time, flexi-place and flexi-load arrangements
- **Tripartite Standard on Unpaid Leave for Unexpected Care Needs**
  - Encourages companies to offer up to 2 or 4 weeks unpaid leave for employees with immediate family members or infants with unexpected care needs respectively
- **Enhanced Work-Life Grant**
  - Incentive of up to \$70,000 per company (over 2 years) to encourage companies to adopt and sustain **FWAs**
  - **Job Sharing Incentive** of up to \$35,000 per company (over 2 years) to incentivise employers to implement job sharing for employees at PMET-level
- **BCA's Accessibility Fund** covers up to 60% of construction costs for family-friendly features including nursing rooms, when private buildings – built before 1990 – undergo basic barrier-free accessibility upgrading



## PRE-SCHOOL AND EDUCATION

*Assuring parents of support for education*

### Expanding Childcare/Infant Care Capacity

- **NEW** 80% of preschoolers will have a place in a government-supported preschool by around 2025 (up from just over 50% today)
- Increasing full-day places by another 20,000 places to over 200,000 places over the next few years

### Quality Early Childhood Development

- Setting up National Institute of Early Childhood Development (NIEC) to train early childhood professionals
- Early Childhood Development Centres Act ensures higher and more consistent quality pre-schools



## PRE-SCHOOL AND EDUCATION

*Assuring parents of support for education*

### Making Child Care/Infant Care More Affordable

- **Basic Subsidy** of up to \$600 for full-day infant care and up to \$300 for full-day child care for working mothers
  - Families with non-working mothers are eligible for a Basic Subsidy of up to \$150 per month
- **NEW** From January 2020, families with working mothers, and with gross monthly household incomes of \$12,000 and below, are eligible for **Additional Subsidies**. Subsidy amounts will also be increased across all eligible income tiers
- **NEW** From January 2020, families with gross monthly household incomes of \$12,000 and below, which have children enrolled in kindergarten programme in an Anchor Operator preschool or MOE kindergarten, are eligible for **Kindergarten Fee Assistance Scheme**.

### Strengthening Support for Education

- Significant education subsidies throughout all levels of education
- Enhanced **MOE Financial Assistance Scheme** and **School Meals Programme** to provide more support for lower-income families
- Expansion of after-school care in all primary schools by 2020. Lower-income families can receive total subsidies of up to \$285 a month; revised income criteria to benefit more families
- Bursaries for students in publicly-funded Post-Secondary Education Institutions
- **NEW** Higher bursaries for students from lower- and middle-income families studying in Polytechnics, Autonomous Universities and ITE, NAFA and LASALLE



## HEALTH

*Ensuring better healthcare support for couples and children*

### For Parents/Children

- **NEW** More accessible and affordable childhood vaccinations and developmental screenings
  - **Subsidies for all childhood vaccinations** recommended under the National Childhood Immunisation Schedule (NCIS), at polyclinics and Community Health Assist Scheme General Practitioner (CHAS GP) clinics
  - **Subsidies for childhood developmental screenings** at polyclinics and CHAS GPs
- **MediSave Grant** for Newborns: \$4,000 grant automatically deposited into child's MediSave account
- **MediShield Life**
  - Coverage from birth
  - Extended to cover inpatient treatments for serious pregnancy and delivery-related complications from 1 April 2019
- **MediSave Maternity Package** – use MediSave to help pay for delivery expenses and pre-delivery care:
  - Up to \$900 for pre-delivery care
  - Between \$750 and \$2,150 for delivery medical expenses depending on type of procedure
  - Up to \$450 for each day's stay in hospital

### Support for Assisted Conception Procedures

- **Government co-funding for Assisted Conception Procedures (ACP)** of up to 75% for eligible couples undergoing treatments at public hospitals
  - Assisted Reproduction Technology (ART) treatment for a maximum of 3 fresh and 3 frozen ART cycles
  - From 1 Jan 2020, Intra-Uterine Insemination (IUI) for a maximum of 3 cycles

	Singapore Citizen (SC) Couple	SC-PR Couple	SC-Foreigner Couple
Fresh ART cycles (up to 3 cycles)	75%; up to \$7,700	55%; up to \$5,700	35%; up to \$3,600
Frozen ART cycles (up to 3 cycles)	75%; up to \$2,200	55%; up to \$1,600	35%; up to \$1,000
IUI (up to 3 cycles)	75%; up to \$1,000	55%; up to \$700	35%; up to \$500

**NEW** Note: From 1 Jan 2020, couples can tap on two out of the six existing Government co-funded ART cycles beyond age 40, as long as they have prior attempts of ACP before 40 years old

- **MediSave for ACP:** Couples can withdraw up to \$6,000 for the first cycle, \$5,000 for the second cycle, and \$4,000 for the third and subsequent cycles, within a lifetime applicable limit of \$15,000
- **NEW** From 1 Jan 2020, the age cap for ART treatments and the maximum number of ART cycles a woman can undergo will be removed



## TRANSPORT

*Travelling with you on the journey of parenthood*

### **NEW** Waiver of Passport Application Fee for Newborns

- Application fees will be waived for parents who are applying for the first passport for their Singapore Citizen children born on or after 1 January 2020
- To enjoy the waiver, parents must submit passport applications online for these children before their first birthday
- More details on the application process will be provided later this year

### More Inclusive, Family-Friendly Public Transport System

- Family-friendly bus and rail network:
  - Open strollers allowed on public buses. Two spaces for wheelchairs/strollers on all new buses
  - Priority queues at all train stations and bus interchanges by 2019 and 2021 respectively
  - Nursing rooms at new bus interchanges and integrated transport hubs including Bukit Panjang, Kampung Bahru, Compassvale, Shenton Way and Tampines
  - Diaper-changing stations along future Thomson-East Coast Line and Circle Line 6 stations


















## CHILD-RAISING

*Supporting parents in caring for children*

### Child Development Account (CDA)

- The CDA is a special savings account where savings deposited are matched by the Government, up to a cap
- **CDA First Step:** A \$3,000 Government contribution to the CDA given without parents having to save in the CDA first

Birth Order of Child	CDA First Step (Parents' savings not required)	Government Co-savings	Total Government Contribution
 <b>1st &amp; 2nd</b>	 <b>\$3,000</b>	 <b>\$3,000</b> Parents' Savings  <b>\$3,000</b> Government Co-savings	 <b>\$6,000</b>
 <b>3rd &amp; 4th</b>	 <b>\$3,000</b>	 <b>\$9,000</b> Parents' Savings  <b>\$9,000</b> Government Co-savings	 <b>\$12,000</b>
 <b>5th &amp; subsequent</b>	 <b>\$3,000</b>	 <b>\$15,000</b> Parents' Savings  <b>\$15,000</b> Government Co-savings	 <b>\$18,000</b>

Savings in the CDA can be used to pay for educational and healthcare expenses at Baby Bonus Approved Institutions. Visit [www.babybonus.msf.gov.sg](http://www.babybonus.msf.gov.sg) to apply for Baby Bonus and access Baby Bonus Parenting Resources.



# CHILD-RAISING

Supporting parents in caring for children

## Baby Bonus Cash Gift







Birth Order	Baby Bonus Cash Gift (for each child)
1st & 2nd	\$8,000
3rd & subsequent	\$10,000

### Baby Bonus Parenting Resources

A one-stop portal with localised information and tips by experts to support parents in raising happy and healthy children




## Parenthood Tax Rebate (PTR)

- Parents can claim the following amount under PTR:

Birth Order of Child	Rebate Amount (per child)
 1st child	 <b>\$5,000</b>
 2nd child	 <b>\$10,000</b>
 3rd & subsequent	 <b>\$20,000</b>

## Working Mother's Child Relief (WMCR)

- A working mother can claim the following amount under WMCR:

Birth Order of Child	Percentage of Earned Income (per child)
 1st child	<b>15%</b>
 2nd child	<b>20%</b>
 3rd & subsequent	<b>25%</b>

## Qualifying Child Relief (QCR) & Handicapped Child Relief (HCR)

- Tax relief of \$4,000 per child under QCR
- Tax relief of \$7,500 per child under HCR

## Grandparent Caregiver Relief

- \$3,000 tax relief for a working mother whose parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, or grandparent-in-law is looking after her child aged 12 years and below (from Year of Assessment 2020, there will be no age criteria for the child if the child is handicapped and unmarried)

## Foreign Domestic Worker Levy Concession

- Concessionary levy of \$60 for families with a Singapore citizen child below 16 years old, who engage a foreign domestic worker

For more information on the Marriage and Parenthood Package and eligibility criteria, go to [www.heybaby.sg](http://www.heybaby.sg)

Updated as of 28 Aug 2019

