

ANNEX E-2: ENHANCEMENTS TO PRESCHOOL AND STUDENT CARE SUBSIDIES

To help Singaporeans defray the costs of preschool and student care, the Government will enhance means-tested subsidies for preschool and student care services. These enhancements will help families access affordable and quality preschools and after-school care programmes.

The subsidised schemes that will be enhanced are:

- (a) Infant and Childcare Additional Subsidy Scheme;
- (b) Kindergarten Fee Assistance Scheme (“KiFAS”); and
- (c) Student Care Fee Assistance (“SCFA”).

The enhancements will benefit over 60,000 families with children in preschools, and around 13,000 students and their families in MSF-registered Student Care Centres (“SCCs”).

(A) Enhancements to Infant and Childcare Additional Subsidy Scheme

There are two types of infant care and childcare subsidies:

- (a) Basic Subsidy. All Singapore Citizen children enrolled in an ECDA-licensed infant or childcare centre are eligible for the Basic Subsidy.
- (b) Additional Subsidy. Singapore Citizen children are eligible for the Additional Subsidy if the main applicant (mother or single father) is working¹, and the family meets specific income criteria.

The Additional Subsidy provides varying subsidy amounts based on household income bands, with lower-income families receiving more subsidies. Families may receive less than the maximum Additional Subsidy, as they are still subject to a minimum co-payment of the fees. The minimum co-payment amount varies depending on household income.

Household income is based on (a) Gross Monthly Household Income (“HHI”), which is the combined average gross monthly income of both the applicant and the spouse, or (b) Per Capita Income (“PCI”), which is the total average gross monthly household income of all family members in the household divided by the number of family members in the household. PCI is used for households with at least five family members.

¹ Non-working main applicants may still be eligible for Additional Subsidy if they meet qualifying criteria, including looking for employment, studying or training for at least 56 hours per month, pregnancy, being medically unfit for work, caring for a special needs child, caring for a sick family member requiring full-time care, caring full-time for a younger child aged 24 months and below not enrolled in preschool, or incarceration. In addition, families with a Singapore Citizen child enrolled in a childcare programme with a HHI of \$7,500 and below or PCI of \$1,700 and below will qualify for Additional Subsidy regardless of working status.

The Government will enhance the Additional Subsidy by

- (a) **Raising the highest HHI eligibility threshold from \$12,000 to \$15,000;**
- (b) **Raising the highest PCI eligibility threshold from \$3,000 to \$3,400; and**
- (c) Correspondingly **raising the income eligibility thresholds** for the tiers below (see Tables 1 to 4).

Table 1: Enhanced Subsidies for Full-day Childcare

Working status	Current		Revised		Basic Subsidy	Additional Subsidy (AS)	
	HHI	PCI	HHI	PCI		Maximum AS	Minimum Co-pay
Working applicant	\$3,000 and below	\$750 and below	\$3,500 and below	\$750 and below	\$300	\$467	\$3
	\$3,001 to \$4,500	\$751 to \$1,125	\$3,501 to \$5,500	\$751 to \$1,200	\$300	\$440	\$25
	\$4,501 to \$6,000	\$1,126 to \$1,500	\$5,501 to \$7,500	\$1,201 to \$1,700	\$300	\$340	\$58
	\$6,001 to \$7,500	\$1,501 to \$1,875	\$7,501 to \$9,000	\$1,701 to \$2,100	\$300	\$260	\$104
	\$7,501 to \$9,000	\$1,876 to \$2,250	\$9,001 to \$11,000	\$2,101 to \$2,600	\$300	\$190	\$162
	\$9,001 to \$10,500	\$2,251 to \$2,625	\$11,001 to \$13,000	\$2,601 to \$3,000	\$300	\$130	\$232
	\$10,501 to \$12,000	\$2,626 to \$3,000	\$13,001 to \$15,000	\$3,001 to \$3,400	\$300	\$80	\$315
	Above \$12,000	Above \$3,000	Above \$15,000	Above \$3,400	\$300	N/A	N/A
Non-working applicant					\$150	N/A	N/A

Table 2: Enhanced Subsidies for Half-day Childcare

Working status	Current		Revised		Basic Subsidy	Additional Subsidy (AS)	
	HHI	PCI	HHI	PCI		Maximum AS	Minimum Co-pay
Working applicant	\$3,000 and below	\$750 and below	\$3,500 and below	\$750 and below	\$150	\$235	\$2
	\$3,001 to \$4,500	\$751 to \$1,125	\$3,501 to \$5,500	\$751 to \$1,200	\$150	\$220	\$15
	\$4,501 to \$6,000	\$1,126 to \$1,500	\$5,501 to \$7,500	\$1,201 to \$1,700	\$150	\$170	\$43
	\$6,001 to \$7,500	\$1,501 to \$1,875	\$7,501 to \$9,000	\$1,701 to \$2,100	\$150	\$130	\$72
	\$7,501 to \$9,000	\$1,876 to \$2,250	\$9,001 to \$11,000	\$2,101 to \$2,600	\$150	\$95	\$103

Working status	Current		Revised		Basic Subsidy	Additional Subsidy (AS)	
	HHI	PCI	HHI	PCI		Maximum AS	Minimum Co-pay
	\$9,001 to \$10,500	\$2,251 to \$2,625	\$11,001 to \$13,000	\$2,601 to \$3,000	\$150	\$65	\$136
	\$10,501 to \$12,000	\$2,626 to \$3,000	\$13,001 to \$15,000	\$3,001 to \$3,400	\$150	\$40	\$170
	Above \$12,000	Above \$3,000	Above \$15,000	Above \$3,400	\$150	N/A	N/A
Non-working applicant					\$150	N/A	N/A

Table 3: Enhanced Subsidies for Full-day Infant Care

Working status	Current		Revised		Basic Subsidy	Additional Subsidy (AS)	
	HHI	PCI	HHI	PCI		Maximum AS	Minimum Co-pay
Working applicant	\$3,000 and below	\$750 and below	\$3,500 and below	\$750 and below	\$600	\$710	\$40
	\$3,001 to \$4,500	\$751 to \$1,125	\$3,501 to \$5,500	\$751 to \$1,200	\$600	\$640	\$110
	\$4,501 to \$6,000	\$1,126 to \$1,500	\$5,501 to \$7,500	\$1,201 to \$1,700	\$600	\$500	\$250
	\$6,001 to \$7,500	\$1,501 to \$1,875	\$7,501 to \$9,000	\$1,701 to \$2,100	\$600	\$380	\$360
	\$7,501 to \$9,000	\$1,876 to \$2,250	\$9,001 to \$11,000	\$2,101 to \$2,600	\$600	\$240	\$500
	\$9,001 to \$10,500	\$2,251 to \$2,625	\$11,001 to \$13,000	\$2,601 to \$3,000	\$600	\$100	\$640
	\$10,501 to \$12,000	\$2,626 to \$3,000	\$13,001 to \$15,000	\$3,001 to \$3,400	\$600	\$40	\$700
	Above \$12,000	Above \$3,000	Above \$15,000	Above \$3,400	\$600	N/A	N/A
Non-working applicant					\$150	N/A	N/A

Table 4: Enhanced Subsidies for Half-day Infant Care

Working status	Current		Revised		Basic Subsidy	Additional Subsidy (AS)	
	HHI	PCI	HHI	PCI		Maximum AS	Minimum Co-pay
Working applicant	\$3,000 and below	\$750 and below	\$3,500 and below	\$750 and below	\$300	\$355	\$20
	\$3,001 to \$4,500	\$751 to \$1,125	\$3,501 to \$5,500	\$751 to \$1,200	\$300	\$320	\$60
	\$4,501 to \$6,000	\$1,126 to \$1,500	\$5,501 to \$7,500	\$1,201 to \$1,700	\$300	\$250	\$130
	\$6,001 to \$7,500	\$1,501 to \$1,875	\$7,501 to \$9,000	\$1,701 to \$2,100	\$300	\$190	\$185
	\$7,501 to \$9,000	\$1,876 to \$2,250	\$9,001 to \$11,000	\$2,101 to \$2,600	\$300	\$120	\$255
	\$9,001 to \$10,500	\$2,251 to \$2,625	\$11,001 to \$13,000	\$2,601 to \$3,000	\$300	\$50	\$325
	\$10,501 to \$12,000	\$2,626 to \$3,000	\$13,001 to \$15,000	\$3,001 to \$3,400	\$300	\$20	\$355
	Above \$12,000	Above \$3,000	Above \$15,000	Above \$3,400	\$300	N/A	N/A
Non-working applicant					\$150	N/A	N/A

(B) Enhancements to Kindergarten Fee Assistance Scheme (“KiFAS”)

Singapore Citizen children enrolled at an Anchor Operator (“AOP”) or MOE Kindergarten are eligible for means-tested subsidies under KiFAS if the family meets specific income criteria.

KiFAS provides subsidies based on household income bands, with lower-income families receiving more subsidies. Similar to the Additional Subsidy, families are also subject to a minimum co-payment of the fees, which varies depending on household income.

Household income is also determined based on either HHI or PCI. PCI testing is only applicable for households with at least five family members.

The Government will enhance KiFAS by

- (a) **Raising the highest HHI eligibility threshold from \$12,000 to \$15,000;**
- (b) **Raising the highest PCI eligibility threshold from \$3,000 to \$3,400; and**
- (c) **Correspondingly raising the income eligibility thresholds for the tiers below.**

Table 5: Enhanced Subsidies for Kindergarten

Current		Revised		KiFAS	
HHI	PCI	HHI	PCI	Maximum KiFAS	Minimum Co-pay
\$3,000 and below	\$750 and below	\$3,500 and below	\$750 and below	\$163	\$1
\$3,001 to \$4,500	\$751 to \$1,125	\$3,501 to \$5,500	\$751 to \$1,200	\$152	\$12
\$4,501 to \$6,000	\$1,126 to \$1,500	\$5,501 to \$7,500	\$1,201 to \$1,700	\$109	\$55
\$6,001 to \$7,500	\$1,501 to \$1,875	\$7,501 to \$9,000	\$1,701 to \$2,100	\$89	\$75
\$7,501 to \$9,000	\$1,876 to \$2,250	\$9,001 to \$11,000	\$2,101 to \$2,600	\$69	\$95
\$9,001 to \$10,500	\$2,251 to \$2,625	\$11,001 to \$13,000	\$2,601 to \$3,000	\$49	\$115
\$10,501 to \$12,000	\$2,626 to \$3,000	\$13,001 to \$15,000	\$3,001 to \$3,400	\$19	\$145

(C) Enhancements to Student Care Fee Assistance (“SCFA”)

All Singapore Citizen and Permanent Resident (“PR”)² children enrolled in MSF-registered SCCs are eligible for means-tested subsidies under the SCFA if the family meets specific income criteria. Both parents should also be working (at least 56 hours per month each).

The SCFA provides subsidies based on household income, with lower-income families receiving more subsidies. Subsidies for SCCs with monthly fees below \$295 are calculated as a percentage of the fees. Subsidies for SCCs with monthly fees of \$295 and above are provided as a fixed dollar amount.

Household income is determined based on either HHI or PCI. PCI testing is only applicable for households with at least five family members.

The Government will enhance the SCFA by:

- (a) **Raising the HHI eligibility threshold from \$4,500 to \$6,500;**
- (b) **Raising the PCI eligibility threshold from \$1,125 to \$1,625; and**
- (c) Correspondingly **raising the income eligibility thresholds** for the tiers below.

² To be eligible for the SCFA, PR children must have at least one immediate family member who is a Singapore Citizen.

Table 6: Enhanced Subsidies for SCCs

Current		Revised		SCFA	
HHI	PCI	HHI	PCI	Subsidy for SCCs with fees < \$295	Subsidy for SCCs with fees ≥ \$295
\$1,500 and below	\$375 and below	\$2,000 and below	\$500 and below	98%	\$290
\$1,501 to \$2,000	\$376 to \$500	\$2,001 to \$2,500	\$501 to \$625	95%	\$280
\$2,001 to \$2,200	\$501 to \$550	\$2,501 to \$3,000	\$626 to \$750	90%	\$266
\$2,201 to \$2,400	\$551 to \$600	Removed		85%	\$251
\$2,401 to \$2,600	\$601 to \$650	\$3,001 to \$3,300	\$751 to \$825	80%	\$236
\$2,601 to \$2,800	\$651 to \$700	\$3,301 to \$3,600	\$826 to \$900	70%	\$207
\$2,801 to \$3,000	\$701 to \$750	\$3,601 to \$4,000	\$901 to \$1,000	60%	\$177
\$3,001 to \$3,200	\$751 to \$800	\$4,001 to \$4,400	\$1,001 to \$1,100	50%	\$148
\$3,201 to \$3,500	\$801 to \$875	\$4,401 to \$4,800	\$1,101 to \$1,200	40%	\$118
\$3,501 to \$4,000	\$876 to \$1,000	\$4,801 to \$5,200	\$1,201 to \$1,300	30%	\$89
\$4,001 to \$4,500	\$1,001 to \$1,125	\$5,201 to \$6,500	\$1,301 to \$1,625	20%	\$59

No action is required from existing beneficiaries of any of the above-mentioned schemes. The respective service providers and scheme administrators will automatically apply the corresponding subsidies to those who are eligible from 1 Jan 2027.

More Information

Scheme	Contact Details
Infant and Childcare Additional Subsidy Scheme	Please contact MSF at MSF_QSM@msf.gov.sg
Kindergarten Fee Assistance Scheme	
Student Care Fee Assistance	