

Press Release

1.6 Million Singaporeans to Receive Letters on the 2015 GST Voucher and Other Budget Benefits in July

1. 1.6 million Singaporeans will receive letters from the first week of July informing them of their 2015 GST Voucher (GSTV) benefits, as well as other Budget benefits such as the 5-Year Medisave top-up and the Service and Conservancy Charges (S&CC) rebates. Details on the benefits are in [Annex A](#).

Individual benefits

GSTV – Cash (1.3 million Singaporeans)

2. In Budget 2015, the Government announced a permanent increase of \$50 in the annual GST Voucher – Cash quantum to help lower-income households with their cost of living. Eligible Singaporeans will receive up to \$300 in GST Voucher – Cash in 2015. (This excludes the GSTV – Seniors' Bonus.) About 1.3 million Singaporeans will receive the GSTV – Cash on 1 August 2015.

One-off GSTV – Seniors' Bonus (660,000 older Singaporeans)

3. In addition, a GSTV – Seniors' Bonus will be provided to the many older Singaporeans to help them with their daily expenses. This comes on top of the GSTV – Cash, and will benefit **more than 660,000 older Singaporeans**.

- Eligible seniors aged 55 – 64 years can receive up to \$300 GSTV – Seniors' Bonus
- Eligible seniors aged 65 years and above can receive up to \$600 GSTV – Seniors' Bonus

4. Including the GSTV – Cash component, this means that eligible older **seniors aged 65 years and above¹ will receive a total of \$900 in cash in 2015**, which will be disbursed in two tranches: \$600 in August 2015 and \$300 in November 2015. This will be helpful to these older seniors.

5. The GSTV – Seniors' Bonus is being provided for 2015. In the meantime, the details and implementation are being worked out for the permanent Silver Support scheme, which will begin next year.

GSTV – Medisave (400,000 Singaporeans)

6. About 400,000 Singaporeans aged 65 years and above will also receive the GSTV – Medisave of up to \$450 on 1 August 2015.

¹ Living in homes with annual values up to \$13,000 (i.e. mostly HDB flats).

Additional Medisave top-ups on top of the GSTV Scheme

7. In addition to the GSTV – Medisave, most seniors can receive additional Medisave top-ups:
- Pioneer Generation Medisave Top-Up. For Pioneers, the amount of Pioneer Generation Medisave top-up ranges from \$200 to \$800 annually. The examples below illustrate the total Medisave top-up that our Pioneers could receive.
 - 5-Year Medisave Top-Up Scheme. Singaporeans born on or before 31 Dec 1959 (i.e. aged 56 years and above in 2015), who do not enjoy Pioneer Generation benefits, will receive Medisave top-ups of \$100 or \$200 annually from 2014 to 2018, as announced in Budget 2014. This will benefit about 528,000 Singaporeans. The vast majority (i.e. those living in HDB flats who do not own more than one property) will get the higher top-up of \$200 a year.

Household benefits

GSTV – U-Save (800,000 households)

8. The regular GST Voucher – U-Save is given out quarterly to help offset utilities directly, and costs \$180 million annually. This July, over 800,000 eligible households will each receive up to \$65, depending on their HDB flat type.

One-off Service & Conservancy Charges (S&CC) rebate (800,000 households)

9. The S&CC rebate is given out in April, July, and October this year, and costs \$80 million in 2015. This July, around 800,000 eligible households will receive the S&CC rebate which will offset half a month to one month of charges, depending on their HDB flat type.

What this means for you

10. For example, a retiree Pioneer who is **76 years old** this year and lives in an HDB flat (and does not own a second property) will receive the benefits below in 2015. A **Pioneer couple** in the same situation will get **\$1,800 in cash, and \$1,900 in Medisave top-ups**.

Individual
\$900 in cash per person (\$300 GSTV – Cash and \$600 GSTV – Seniors' Bonus)
\$950 in Medisave top-ups (\$350 GSTV – Medisave and \$600 Pioneer Generation Medisave)
Household
\$180-260 of GSTV – U-Save rebate
1-3 months of S&CC rebate

11. Meanwhile, a **lower-income couple in their early 60s** living in an HDB flat (and do not own a second property) will hence get **\$1,200 in cash, and \$400 in Medisave top-ups in 2015:**

Individual
\$1,200 in cash (\$600 per person ²)
\$400 in Medisave top-ups (\$200 per person)
Household
\$180-260 of GSTV – U-Save rebate
1-3 months of S&CC rebate

12. A **working couple** in their 40s, with both the husband and wife each having a monthly salary of \$2,000, living in a HDB flat (and do not own a second property), can receive a total of **\$600 in cash in 2015:**

Individual
\$600 in cash (\$300 GSTV – Cash per person)
Household
\$180-260 of GSTV – U-Save rebate
1-3 months of S&CC rebate

Additional Information

13. Most Singaporeans will automatically receive their GSTV payouts and 5-Year Medisave top-ups. 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 2015 to receive their benefits.

14. More details on the GST Voucher 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	Contact no.	Email
GSTV – Cash / Seniors' Bonus / Medisave	1800-2222-888	contactus@gstvoucher.gov.sg
5-Year Medisave Top-Up		contactus@govtopup.gov.sg
GSTV – U-Save	6671-7117	spservices@singaporepower.com.sg
S&CC	1800-866-3078	sccrebates@mailbox.hdb.gov.sg

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² \$300 GSTV – Cash and \$300 GSTV – Seniors' Bonus.

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About the GST Voucher

The GST Voucher was introduced by the Government in Budget 2012 to help lower- and middle-income households with their expenses, in particular, what they pay in GST in the payout year. The GST Voucher is given in three components – Cash, Medisave and U-Save. GST Voucher – Cash provides lower-income and retiree households 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 HDB households with a rebate to offset their utilities bills, and is paid every January, April, July and October.

More information on the GST Voucher 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, Centre for Public Project Management, Singapore Customs and Vital.org – 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: Increased GSTV – Cash payouts from 2015

Assessable Income for YA 2014 ≤ \$26,000	AV of Home as at 31 Dec 2014	
	Up to \$13,000	\$13,001 to \$21,000
Aged 21 years and above	\$300 (previously \$250)	\$150 (previously \$100)

Payout month: August 2015

Table A2: Additional GSTV – Seniors' Bonus for 2015

Assessable Income for YA 2014 ≤ \$26,000	Annual Value of Home as at 31 Dec 2014	
	Up to \$13,000	\$13,001 to \$21,000
Aged 55 to 64 years	\$300*	\$150*
Aged 65 years and above	\$600#	

**Payout month: August 2015*

#Payout months: \$300 in August and \$300 in November 2015

Table A3: GSTV – Medisave

Age in 2015	Annual Value of Home as at 31 Dec 2014	
	Up to \$13,000	\$13,001 to \$21,000
65 – 74	\$250	\$150
75 – 84	\$350	\$250
85 and above	\$450	\$350

Payout month: August 2015

Table A4: Pioneer Generation Medisave top-up

Born in	Age in 2015	Amount of Medisave top-up per year
1945 – 1949	66 – 70	\$200
1940 – 1944	71 – 75	\$400
1935 -1939	76 – 80	\$600
1934 or earlier	>= 81	\$800

Payout month: July 2015

Table A5: 5-Year Medisave top-up (from 2014 to 2018)

Annual Value of Home as at 31 Dec 2014	Up to \$13,000	Above \$13,000 or owns more than 1 property
Singapore Citizens born in 1959 and earlier who do not enjoy Pioneer Generation benefits	\$200/year	\$100/year

Payout month: August 2015

Table A6: GSTV – U-Save

Flat Type	Jul 2015	Oct 2015	Jan 2016	Apr 2016	Total rebates each year
1- and 2-Room	\$65	\$65	\$65	\$65	\$260
3-Room	\$60	\$60	\$60	\$60	\$240
4-Room	\$55	\$55	\$55	\$55	\$220
5-Room	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$200
Executive / Multi-Generation	\$45	\$45	\$45	\$45	\$180

Table A7: S&CC rebate for 2015

Flat Type	2015 S&CC Rebate (no. of months)			
	Apr	Jul	Oct	Total for 2015
1- to 2-room	1	1	1	3
3- to 4-room	1	0.5	0.5	2
5-room	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.5
Executive	0.5	0.5	-	1