

## Press Release

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### **\$1.2 Billion of GST Vouchers and Medisave Top-Ups for 1.57 Million Singaporeans**

A total of **1.57 million** eligible citizens will receive notifications on their 2017 GST Vouchers (GSTV) and Medisave top-ups. Citizens may also view their GSTV – Cash and Medisave benefits online by logging in with SingPass at [www.gstvoucher.gov.sg](http://www.gstvoucher.gov.sg). To increase convenience to citizens, and be more eco-friendly, younger recipients with mobile numbers updated with SingPass will be notified via mobile **SMS notifications**. Other recipients will receive **letter notifications**.

#### **Individual Benefits**

##### GSTV – Cash and one-off Cash Special Payment

2 About **1.37 million** eligible Singaporeans will receive **up to \$500** in GSTV – Cash in 2017, comprising a payment of **up to \$300 in August 2017** and a one-off Special Payment in **November 2017**. The GSTV – Cash and Cash Special Payment will cost \$680 million.

3 Eligible citizens are encouraged to log in and update their payment mode to direct bank crediting at [www.gstvoucher.gov.sg](http://www.gstvoucher.gov.sg) if they have not already done so, as cheque payments will take 2 weeks longer to process.

##### Medisave Top-Ups

4 About **450,000 Singaporeans aged 65 years and above** will receive the GSTV – Medisave of **up to \$450 in August 2017**. This will cost about \$130 million.

5 In addition, Singaporeans who are born on or before 31 December 1959 (58 years and above in 2017) and do not receive Pioneer Generation (PG) benefits will receive a Medisave top-up of **up to \$200** in 2017 and 2018. The top-up for 2017 will benefit about **520,000** citizens, and cost about \$95 million. It will be credited into eligible citizens' Medisave accounts in **August 2017**. In total:

- A **non-Pioneer aged 65 in 2017** and who is living in an HDB flat (and does not own a second property) can receive **\$450** of Medisave top-ups this year.

6 Pioneers will also receive their PG Medisave top-ups of \$200 to \$800 in July 2017. Taking both the PG Medisave and GSTV – Medisave together:

- A **Pioneer aged 70 in 2017** 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 2017** who is living in an HDB flat (and does not own a second property) will receive **\$1,250** of Medisave top-ups.

## Household Benefits

### GSTV – U-Save

7 The GSTV – U-Save is given every 3 months to help offset utilities bills directly. As announced at Budget 2017, there will be a permanent increase of between \$40 to \$120 to the annual U-Save rebate from July 2017. Following the increase, the GSTV – U-Save will cost about \$265 million, and benefit about **880,000** eligible Singaporean HDB households.

### One-off Service & Conservancy Charges (S&CC) rebate

8 The one-off S&CC rebate was announced at Budget 2017 to provide additional support to households. Around **880,000** eligible Singaporean HDB households will receive **1.5 to 3.5 months of S&CC rebate** in FY2017, depending on their HDB flat type.

### What this means for you

9 Most citizens will automatically receive their GSTV payouts if they had signed up for the GSTV or any other government payout scheme in the past. For the small number of citizens who have not signed up for the GSTV or past government payouts, they have until 31 December 2017 to sign up online, or through a hardcopy form (found at the Community Centres). Please see Annex A for more information on the benefits and Annex B for examples of three Singaporean archetypes, including the household benefits they will receive.

#### Doing more for the environment – mobile SMS notifications

This year, eligible recipients will receive mobile **SMS notifications** about their GST Voucher – Cash and Medisave eligibility from **27 to 29 June**. This will be faster and more convenient for citizens, while enabling them to do their part for the environment. The sender of the SMS will be "GSTV", and the SMS will request that eligible citizens log into [www.gstvoucher.gov.sg](http://www.gstvoucher.gov.sg) with SingPass to view their benefits. Citizens are reminded to beware of phishing websites, which may ask for their personal information without SingPass authentication.



#### Faster

SMS notifications will reach recipients earlier than letters



#### Simple

Messages will be short and concise



#### Convenient

Can be viewed anywhere, anytime



#### Eco-Friendly

Reduces paper wastage

Those in the 21 to 55 age group with mobile numbers updated with SingPass will only receive SMS notifications (without hardcopy letters). Those aged 56 and above with mobile numbers updated with SingPass will receive both SMSes and notification letters. We hope more citizens will opt for SMS notifications in future, by updating their mobile numbers with SingPass at [www.singpass.gov.sg](http://www.singpass.gov.sg).

Age in 2017	Mobile Number registered with SingPass	Mode of Notification
21 to 55	Yes	SMS only
	No	Letter
56 and above	Yes	SMS and Letter
	No	Letter

## Contact Information

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

Scheme	Telephone	Email
GSTV – Cash and Medisave	1800-2222-888	<a href="mailto:contactus@gstvoucher.gov.sg">contactus@gstvoucher.gov.sg</a>
GSTV – U-Save	6671-7117	<a href="mailto:customersupport@spgroup.com.sg">customersupport@spgroup.com.sg</a>
Pioneer Generation Package	1800-2222-888	<a href="mailto:contactus@pioneers.gov.sg">contactus@pioneers.gov.sg</a>
S&CC rebate	1800-866-3078	<a href="mailto:sccrebates@mailbox.hdb.gov.sg">sccrebates@mailbox.hdb.gov.sg</a>
SingPass	6643-0555	<a href="mailto:support@singpass.gov.sg">support@singpass.gov.sg</a>

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### 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 HDB households with a rebate 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](http://www.gstvoucher.gov.sg).

### About Ministry of Finance

The Ministry of Finance aims to create a better Singapore through Finance. The Ministry strives to achieve a balanced budget through prudent fiscal policy, foster a regulatory environment conducive to business and enterprise, and ensure prudent investment of the Government's reserves and other public funds. It 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), and statutory boards (Accounting & Corporate Regulatory Authority, Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore and Tote Board).

For more information, please visit [www.mof.gov.sg](http://www.mof.gov.sg).

**Table A1: GSTV – Cash and one-off GSTV – Cash Special Payment**

GST Voucher	Assessable Income for YA 2016 ≤ \$28,000	Annual Value of Home as at 31 Dec 2016		Paid on*
		Up to \$13,000	\$13,001 to \$21,000	
Regular – Cash	Singaporeans aged 21 years and above	\$300	\$150	1 Aug 2017
One-off – Cash Special Payment		\$200	\$100	1 Nov 2017

\* Cheque payment will take 2 weeks longer. Citizens are encouraged to switch to direct bank crediting at [www.gstvoucher.gov.sg](http://www.gstvoucher.gov.sg).

**Table A2: Total Medisave Top-Ups**

Age in 2017	Amount of Medisave Top-Up*	Paid in
58 to 64 years	Up to \$200	Jul 2017 (PG)  Aug 2017 (GSTV and MTS5)
65 to 72 years	Up to \$450	
73 to 74 years	Up to \$650	
75 to 77 years	Up to \$750	
78 to 82 years	Up to \$950	
83 to 84 years	Up to \$1,150	
85 years and above	Up to \$1,250	

\* Includes GSTV – Medisave, PG Medisave Top-Up and/or 5-year Medisave Top-Up (MTS5)

**Table A3: Household Benefits**

HDB Flat Type	GSTV – U-Save				Total rebates from Jul 17 – Apr 18
	Jul 2017	Oct 2017	Jan 2018	Apr 2018	
1- and 2-room	\$95	\$95	\$95	\$95	\$380
3-room	\$85	\$85	\$85	\$85	\$340
4-room	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$300
5-room	\$65	\$65	\$65	\$65	\$260
Executive/ Multi-Gen	\$55	\$55	\$55	\$55	\$220

HDB Flat Type	FY2017 S&CC Rebate (no. of months)				Total for FY2017
	Apr 2017	Jul 2017	Oct 2017	Jan 2018	
1- and 2-room	1	1	1	0.5	3.5
3- and 4-room	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.5
5-room	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2
Executive/ Multi-Gen	0.5	0.5	0.5	-	1.5

**What this means for you**

1. For example, a **Pioneer couple** (husband aged 80, wife aged 77), living in an HDB flat (and not owning a second property) will receive the benefits below in 2017:

<b>Individual</b>
<b>\$1,000 in cash</b> (\$300 GSTV – Cash and \$200 GSTV – Cash Special Payment <u>per person</u> )
<b>\$1,700 in Medisave top-ups</b> (\$350 GSTV – Medisave and \$600 Pioneer Generation Medisave <u>for husband</u> ) (\$350 GSTV – Medisave and \$400 Pioneer Generation Medisave <u>for wife</u> )
<b>Household</b>
<b>\$220 to \$380 of GSTV – U-Save rebate annually</b>
<b>1.5 to 3.5 months of S&amp;CC rebate in FY2017</b>

2. A **retired couple in their 60s** (husband aged 66, wife aged 60) living in an HDB flat (and not owning a second property) will receive the benefits below in 2017:

<b>Individual</b>
<b>\$1,000 in cash</b> (\$300 GSTV – Cash and \$200 GSTV – Cash Special Payment <u>per person</u> )
<b>\$650 in Medisave top-ups</b> (\$200 of 5-year Medisave Top-Up <u>per person</u> and \$250 GSTV – Medisave <u>for husband</u> )
<b>Household</b>
<b>\$220 to \$380 of GSTV – U-Save rebate annually</b>
<b>1.5 to 3.5 months of S&amp;CC rebate in FY2017</b>

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 not owning a second property), will receive the benefits below in 2017:

<b>Individual</b>
<b>\$1,000 in cash</b> (\$300 GSTV – Cash and \$200 GSTV – Cash Special Payment <u>per person</u> )
<b>Household</b>
<b>\$220 to \$380 of GSTV – U-Save rebate annually</b>
<b>1.5 to 3.5 months of S&amp;CC rebate in FY2017</b>