Assessable Income

3.1

What is Assessable Income (AI)?

Your AI includes all forms of income from trade, business, profession or vocation, employment, as well as rental income that is taxable.

Your AI can be found on your tax bill (or Notice of Assessment) that you receive each year if you are required to pay taxes. If you are not required to pay taxes for Year of Assessment (YA) 2020, you may be eligible for the GST Voucher – Cash, if your Income Earned for 2019 (AI for YA2020) does not exceed $28,000 and you meet the other eligibility criteria.

To view your Notice of Assessment, please login to myTax Portal using your Singpass > Notices/Letters > Individual, select Year of Assessment 2020.

3.2

Who will benefit from the AI cut-off of $28,000?

The $28,000 AI cut-off approximately covers the bottom 40% of Singaporean workers, in addition to the unemployed and those who do not work.

3.3

Do I qualify for the GST Voucher – Cash if my AI is unavailable but I meet all other criteria?

If your AI is unavailable because you have not yet filed your income tax returns, please call IRAS at 1800 356 8300. We will then notify you if you are eligible for the 2021 GST Voucher after the finalisation of your tax return.

For the Government to notify all eligible Singaporeans of their 2021 GST Voucher by June 2021, a cut-off date for information provided by all agencies (including IRAS) of 31 December 2020 was used to determine the amount that eligible citizens will receive. There may be a small number of Singaporeans whose AI for YA2020 were not finalised by end-2020 because IRAS was still finalising the income tax assessment for all Singaporeans. Once your AI has been finalised by IRAS, the Government will notify you if you are eligible for the 2021 GST Voucher.
3.4

Why use both AI and AV to determine the amount of GST Voucher – Cash one receives?

Our approach of using both AI and AV as the criteria is a practical way of identifying those who are less well-off. It is not perfect in design, but broadly equitable. It also complements other schemes which are less broad-based, and allow for a more customised assessment of an individual’s needs.

3.5

One of the eligibility criteria for the 2021 GST Voucher – Cash is that the Income Earned in 2019 (AI for the YA2020) must not exceed $28,000. Why is the AI for YA2020 (instead of YA2021) used?

For Singaporeans to receive their 2021 GST Voucher – Cash by August 2021, we have to determine the payments based on the latest available AI. When the eligibility for the 2021 GST Voucher – Cash was determined, the Income Earned for 2019 (AI for YA2020) is the latest tax assessment available. If we were to use the Income Earned for 2020 (AI for YA2021), it would mean delaying payments until 2022, after IRAS has completed the tax assessments and the allocation of the GST Voucher – Cash is completed.

Nonetheless, Singaporeans facing extenuating circumstances can Submit an Enquiry (you will be redirected automatically after Singpass log in), so that we can consider the most recent AI if it has been finalised. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.