

## Press Release

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### 800,000 HDB HOUSEHOLDS TO RECEIVE \$90 MILLION OF GST VOUCHER - U-SAVE IN JANUARY 2013

About 800,000 Singaporean HDB households can expect to receive \$90m worth of GST Voucher – Utilities-Save (U-Save) rebates in January 2013. The GST Voucher – U-Save is a household benefit under the permanent GST Voucher scheme. It was introduced in Budget 2012 to provide continuing assurance that lower-income Singaporeans benefit from our fiscal system

2. An eligible Singaporean household can receive one GST Voucher – U-Save of up to \$130 in January 2013, depending on their HDB flat type (see Table below). There is no sign-up required for the rebates, and utilities charges of households will be offset directly.

Table: 2013 GST Voucher – U-Save (given on a per household basis)

| Disbursement<br>Month     | HDB flat type |        |        |        |        |                 |
|---------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------|
|                           | 1-Room        | 2-Room | 3-Room | 4-Room | 5-Room | Executive Flats |
| Jan 2013                  | \$130         | \$130  | \$120  | \$110  | \$100  | \$90            |
| Jul 2013                  | \$130         | \$130  | \$120  | \$110  | \$100  | \$90            |
| Total Rebates<br>Per Year | \$260         | \$260  | \$240  | \$220  | \$200  | \$180           |

Note: Households whose members own more than one property are not eligible for the GSTV – U-Save. #Rebates have already been paid out.

3. The GST Voucher – U-Save is paid out in January and July each year. Those living in 1- to 2-room HDB flats can offset about 3 to 4 months of utilities bills on average with their yearly GST Voucher – U-Save. Those living in 3- to 4-room HDB flats can offset up to 2 months of utilities bills on average.

4. Taking into account the other components of the GST Voucher, which include the GST Voucher – Cash and Medisave, Singaporean lower-income and retiree households would have received a significant offset for their GST expenses this year. Middle-income families would also have received a GST Voucher that will partially offset their GST expenses

## **For more information**

5. For more information on the GST Voucher – U-Save rebates, the public can call SP Services at 6671 7117, or email [spservices@singaporepower.com.sg](mailto:spservices@singaporepower.com.sg). More information on the GST Voucher can also be found at [www.gstvoucher.gov.sg](http://www.gstvoucher.gov.sg).

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## **About the GST Voucher**

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 GST Voucher can be found at [www.gstvoucher.gov.sg](http://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 and sustainable fiscal policies, 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, customs regulation, accounting standards and business regulation.

We achieve this together with our departments (Accountant-General's Department, Singapore Customs and Vital.org – Centre for Shared Services), and statutory boards/bodies (Accounting & Corporate Regulatory Authority, Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore, Tote Board and Singapore Accountancy Commission).

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