

Press Release

Reminder to Sign Up for GST Voucher by 31 December 2014

Singaporeans who are eligible for the GST Voucher but have yet to sign up should do so by 31 December 2014. They were first asked to do so in a July 2014 letter informing them of their GST Voucher benefits, and they will also receive reminder letters from the Ministry of Finance before 19 November 2014.

2. Only those who are eligible for GST Voucher – Cash and GST Voucher – Medisave need to sign up to receive the payments. The eligibility criteria can be found in Annex. There is no need to sign up for the GST Voucher – U-Save as it is a benefit for the household.
3. Singaporeans may sign up either:
 - a) Online at the GST Voucher website (www.gstvoucher.gov.sg), or
 - b) By completing the GST Voucher sign-up form available at any Community Centre, Community Development Council or any of the CPF Service Centres located island-wide. All forms should reach CPF Board before 31 December 2014.
4. As at September 2014, the Government has disbursed about \$490 million in GST Voucher – Cash and GST Voucher – Cash: Seniors' Bonus, and about \$112 million in GST Voucher – Medisave. About 800,000 HDB households would have also automatically received the GST Voucher – U-Save amounting to \$45 million in October 2014.
5. More information can be found at www.gstvoucher.gov.sg. Singaporeans can also call 1800-2222-888 for details on the GST Voucher – Cash and Medisave, and 6671-7117 for information on the GST Voucher – U-Save.

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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.com.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.

ANNEX: GST Voucher Eligibility Criteria

GST Voucher – Cash/ GST Voucher – Cash: Seniors' Bonus

To receive the GST Voucher – Cash / GST Voucher – Cash: Seniors' Bonus in 2014, you must fulfil the following criteria:

- i) You must be a Singapore citizen, residing in Singapore;
- ii) You must be aged 21 or above in 2014 (for GST Voucher – Cash), and 55 and above in 2014 (for GST Voucher – Cash: Seniors' Bonus);
- iii) Your Assessable Income (AI) for the Year of Assessment 2013 must not exceed \$26,000 (i.e. income earned¹ from Jan 2012 to Dec 2012);
- iv) The Annual Value (AV) of your home (as indicated on your NRIC) as at 31 December 2013 must not exceed \$21,000 (Your AV is found in the property tax bill sent to the owner of your home. All HDB flats have AVs not exceeding \$13,000); and
- v) You must not own more than one property.

GST Voucher – Medisave

To receive the GST Voucher – Medisave in 2014, you must fulfil the following criteria:

- i) You must be a Singapore citizen, residing in Singapore;
- ii) You must be aged 65 and above in 2014;
- iii) The Annual Value of your home (as indicated on your NRIC) as at 31 December 2013 must not exceed \$21,000; and
- iv) You must not own more than one property.

GST Voucher – U-Save

To receive the GST Voucher – U-Save (which will be credited to your HDB flat's utilities account), your household has to fulfil the following conditions:

- i) If you own and live in your HDB flat, there must be at least one Singapore citizen owner or occupier in the flat; or
- ii) If you partially sublet the HDB flat that you own and live in, there must be at least one Singapore citizen owner or occupier in the flat; or
- iii) If the entire flat is sublet to you, there must be at least one Singaporean tenant;

AND

immediate family members living in the same flat must not own or have any interest in more than one property.

¹ Your AI is your total income after deducting allowable expenses and approved donations. For more information on how your AI is calculated, please visit <http://www.iras.gov.sg/irashome/page04.aspx?id=1492>.