

ANNEX B-8: PROVIDING SECTOR-SPECIFIC SUPPORT

(I) Aviation Sector

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to a sharp decline in air travel globally since the Stabilisation and Support Package (SSP) was announced in February 2020. The Government will roll out the following support to the aviation sector:

- (1) Enhanced Jobs Support Scheme
- (2) Enhanced Aviation Support Package
- (3) Defer Payment of Fees

I-1. Enhanced Jobs Support Scheme

The Government will enhance the Jobs Support Scheme to help companies whose activities are based principally at Changi Airport to retain their local workers. Airlines, ground handling companies, and the airport operator will receive grants covering 75% of the gross monthly wages of each Singapore Citizen/Permanent Resident employee, subject to a monthly wage cap of \$4,600. Please see Annex B-1 on the Enhanced Jobs Support Scheme for more details.

I-2. Enhanced Aviation Support Package

The Government will provide a \$350 million Enhanced Aviation Support Package to (a) provide cost relief to affected businesses in the aviation sector; and (b) maintain a minimum level of air connectivity to allow overseas Singaporeans to return to Singapore and for the transportation of goods to keep our supply chains open.

(A) Cost Relief

For Airlines

- 10% landing charge rebate for all scheduled passenger flights landing in Singapore between 1 April 2020 and 31 October 2020¹ (both dates inclusive).
- 50% rebate on rental paid for airlines' lounges and offices within Changi Airport terminal buildings between 1 April 2020 and 31 October 2020 (both dates inclusive).
- 100% rebate on parking charges at Changi Airport between 1 August 2020 and 31 October 2020 (both dates inclusive). This is an extension of a similar rebate provided in the SSP up till 31 July 2020.
- Additional six-month waiver of the planned 1% annual increase in Landing, Parking, and Aerobridge (LPA) charges for all flights. This was scheduled to take effect on

¹ Flights from mainland China to Singapore will continue to get 100% rebate on landing charges up to 31 July 2020 as announced under the SSP, and receive 10% rebate from 1 August 2020 to 31 October 2020. Flights from Southeast Asian destinations will receive a 10% landing rebate as announced under the SSP, and will continue to receive a 10% rebate beyond 31 July 2020 to 31 October 2020.

1 April 2020 and a six-month waiver up till 30 September 2020 was provided under the SSP announced on 18 February 2020. In the current tranche of support, the waiver will be extended to 31 March 2021.

For Ground Handlers

- Rebates on rental paid for ground handling companies' lounges and offices within Changi Airport terminal buildings.

For Cargo Sector

- 10% landing charge rebate for all scheduled freighter flights between 1 August 2020 and 31 October 2020. This is an extension of a similar rebate provided in the SSP up till 31 July 2020.
- 20% rental rebates for cargo agents tenanted in Changi Airfreight Centre (CAC) between 1 April 2020 and 31 October 2020².
- Freighters flights will also benefit from the additional six-month waiver of the planned 1% annual increase in LPA charges for all flights.

The Changi Airport Group and Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) will provide more details to the companies.

(B) Maintain Minimum Air Connectivity

The Government will provide funding support to Singapore carriers to maintain a minimum level of air connectivity. This will allow Singaporeans to return to Singapore and for the transportation of goods to keep our supply chains open during the COVID-19 pandemic. The level of connectivity will be adjusted based on needs.

I-3. Defer Payment of Fees

CAAS will allow Singapore carriers and the airport operator to partially or fully defer payment of certain fees due to CAAS between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021 by up to one year, to help ease their cash flow. The value of the deferred fees is about \$140 million. The list of applicable fees is below:

Fees paid by Singapore-based airlines operating scheduled flights:

- Fees for new and renewed Certificates of Airworthiness
- Fees for Category A and Category B licences to provide air services on scheduled journeys under an air services agreement

Fees paid by Airport Operator:

- Aerodrome Certification Fee

² Under the SSP, a 10% rebate on rental was announced for cargo agents at the CAC. This will be increased to a total of 20% for the period from 1 April 2020 to 31 October 2020.

- Air Navigation Charge (50% of fee due)
- Airport Licence Fee

(II) Tourism Sector

The impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the tourism sector has worsened since the SSP was announced, with demand sharply declining due to the imposition of travel restrictions and safe distancing measures. For the tourism sector, the Government will:

- (1) Enhance Broad-Based Support for Tourism Sector
- (2) Enhance Training Industry Professionals in Tourism Grant
- (3) Enhance Other Tourism Grants

II-1. Enhance Broad-Based Support for Tourism Sector

Qualifying licensed hotels, qualifying licensed travel agents, qualifying gated tourist attractions, cruise lines and cruise terminal operators, and purpose-built MICE venue operators will receive enhanced support under the Jobs Support Scheme to cover 75% of gross monthly wages, per Singapore Citizen/Permanent Resident employee, up to a monthly wage cap of \$4,600. Please refer to Annex B-1 on the Enhanced Jobs Support Scheme for more details.

Qualifying commercial properties, including hotels, serviced apartments, tourist attractions, prescribed MICE venues, and international cruise and regional ferry terminals, will enjoy a Property Tax Rebate of 100%. Please refer to Annex B-5 on the Enhanced Property Tax Rebate for Non-Residential Properties for more details.

II-2. Enhance Training Industry Professionals in Tourism Grant

The Training Industry Professionals in Tourism (TIP-iT) grant supports tourism companies in employee upgrading and talent and leadership development.

In February 2020, STB enhanced support under TIP-iT for certified courses and course development for tourism-related skill sets by increasing the maximum support levels to 90% for course fees and trainer fees, for courses that commence between 1 March 2020 and 31 May 2020 (both dates inclusive). These enhancements will now be extended to also include courses that commence between 1 June 2020 and 31 December 2020 (both dates inclusive).

Certified Courses

The enhanced TIP-iT will cover up to 90% of course fees and 90% of basic hourly salary for absentee payroll, capped at \$10 per hour for qualifying applicants. To qualify, the business/company must be registered in Singapore.

Course Development

The enhanced TIP-iT will cover up to 90% of trainer fees for course development and customisation, and 90% of basic hourly salary for absentee payroll of participants in the course developed under TIP-iT, capped at \$10 per hour for qualifying applicants. To qualify, the business/company must be registered in Singapore.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, please visit www.stb.gov.sg or contact STB at STB_Incentives@stb.gov.sg.

II-3. Enhance Other Tourism Grants

To help the tourism sector in building capabilities and ensuring a healthy pipeline of events, products and experiences at an appropriate time, other tourism grants have been enhanced, in addition to TIP-iT.

The maximum support level for qualifying costs will be increased by 10 percentage points for the following grants:

- Business Improvement Fund (BIF)
- Local Enterprise and Association Development Programme (LEAD)³
- Business Events in Singapore (BEiS)
- Leisure Events Fund (LEF)
- Kickstart Fund (KF)
- Experience Step-Up Fund (ESF)
- Cruise Development Fund (CDF)

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, please visit www.stb.gov.sg or contact STB at STB_Incentives@stb.gov.sg.

(III) Land Transport Sector

III-1. Enhance and Extend the Point-to-Point Support Package (PPSP)

The Government will set aside \$95 million to extend and enhance the Point-to-Point Support Package (PPSP).

1. [**Extension of Scheme**] \$78 million will go towards extending the Special Relief Fund (SRF) for taxi main hirers and eligible Private Hire Car (PHC) drivers from May to September 2020.

³ Only for eligible Trade Associations and Chambers in the tourism industry.

- a. Taxi main hirers and full-time PHC drivers will continue to receive relief of \$300 per vehicle per month from the Government.
 - b. More than 40,000 drivers will benefit from the extended SRF. Details on the eligibility criteria for the extended SRF will be released later.
 - c. Taxi and PHC operators have been encouraged to continue providing matching Special Relief to their drivers:
 - i. Taxi operators have already pledged matching rental rebates for taxi hirers, amounting to a total contribution of about \$25 million.
 - ii. PHC operators are being urged to consider similar measures.
 - iii. Taxi and PHC operators have their own eligibility criteria, which they will communicate to their drivers.
2. [**Extension of Scheme**] P2P operator licence fee waivers will be extended for another 6 months, totalling about \$3 million.
- a. P2P operators are strongly encouraged to pass on the savings to their drivers.
 - b. LTA will not be further delaying the implementation of the upcoming Street-hail Service Operator Licence (SSOL) and Ride-Hail Service Operator Licence (RSOL). The P2P new regulatory regime will take effect from September 2020, as mentioned in February 2020.
3. [**New Scheme**] \$12 million will be set aside to help taxi operators defray the costs of their growing unhired fleet.
- a. Average taxi unhired rates have increased from 9% in January 2020 to as much as 14% in mid-March 2020. This is expected to increase as the impact of COVID-19 lengthens and deepens.
 - b. We will work with taxi operators to pass on these savings to drivers (e.g. in the form of rental reductions and waiver of early return contract breakage costs).
4. [**New Scheme**] One-time waiver of \$100 PHC vehicle outward conversion fee from May to September 2020.
- a. Vehicle owners who convert their PHCs to private cars can enjoy lower insurance premiums (e.g. up to ~\$1,000 less per year).

- b. This can also help to ease drivers' transition to other work or to pursue government supported training opportunities.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information on PPSP, please contact LTA via www.lta.gov.sg/feedback.

III-2. Relief for Private Bus Owners

1. One-year road tax rebate for all private buses amounting to almost \$12 million.
 - a. Around 13,500 excursion buses, private buses, private hire buses, and school buses will benefit.
2. Nine-month waiver for Class 2 Bus Service Licence fees totalling about \$0.2 million.
 - a. The Class 2 Bus Service Licence fee is payable for bus services that charge fares and operate on a fixed and scheduled route.
 - b. As existing licensees have already paid their fees until 31 December 2020, LTA will be providing a refund of about \$750 per licence.
 - c. New Class 2 Bus Service Licences issued from 1 April to 31 December 2020 will have their licence fee waived until the end of the year.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information on road tax rebates and licence fee refund/waivers for private buses, please contact LTA via www.lta.gov.sg/feedback.

(IV) Maritime Sector

IV-1. Extend the 50% Port Dues Concession for Passenger Vessels

In February 2020, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) announced 50% port dues concession for passenger vessels. MPA had granted this concession for the period from 1 March 2020 to 31 August 2020. MPA will now extend this concession till 31 December 2020. This will be on top of any existing concessions⁴.

⁴ Existing concessions include port dues concession for vessels under the Maritime Singapore Green Initiative, and 20% port dues concession given to qualifying passenger cruise ships.

IV-2. Provide Additional 35% Rebates on Counter Rental and Overnight Berthing for Regional Ferry Operators

MPA will work with Singapore Cruise Centre Pte. Ltd. (SCCPL) to provide support to regional ferry operators. SCCPL has given a 15% rebate to regional ferry operators to offset their rental fees for overnight berthing of vessels and counter rental at Tanah Merah Ferry Terminal for three months from March 2020. MPA will provide an additional 35% rebate to these operators.

IV-3. Grant 100% Waiver of Public Licence Fees for Passenger Terminal Operators

MPA will grant passenger terminal operators, namely SCCPL and SATS-Creuers Cruise Services Pte. Ltd., a 100% waiver of their public licence fees for one year.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, please contact MPA at AR_MPA@mpa.gov.sg.

(V) Arts and Culture Sector

V-1. Provide New Job Support Funding

The National Arts Council (NAC) will provide funding for major companies and leading arts groups to retain jobs in the arts and culture sector. Collectively, these arts organisations are key to sustaining a vibrant and mature arts scene, creating opportunities for arts practitioners while engaging and growing audiences.

V-2. Enhance the Capability Development Scheme for the Arts (CDSA)

NAC will further enhance the CDSA to support the upskilling and professional development of arts organisations and practitioners. This will prepare the arts and culture sector for the post-COVID-19 recovery. The enhanced CDSA will support a wider group of arts and culture organisations and practitioners, including freelancers, up to end-2020.

V-3. Introduce New Fund for Digitalisation of Arts and Culture Content

The Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY), NAC, and the National Heritage Board (NHB) will champion efforts to promote digitalisation of arts and culture content through a new fund. This will support arts and cultural institutions, organisations, and practitioners to present works digitally, offer new experiences for audiences, and create new economic opportunities.

More details on the above measures will be provided by MCCY, NAC, and NHB subsequently.