



What are some of the Financial Assistance available for families in Singapore?

Description

Recently, a friend of mine experienced the passing of a loved one who was also the breadwinner of the family. It is extremely tough emotionally to cope with the loss. At the same time, to prepare for life moving forward financially. I looked up some financial aid schemes and found the following. Hopefully, this will help families transition into their new family planning with some ease.

MOE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Singaporean students have access to a variety of financial assistance programs provided by the Ministry of Education (MOE) to help cover school fees and other educational expenses. These programs are available to students attending:

- Government and government-aided schools
- Specialised schools
- Independent schools
- Certain specialised independent schools, such as NUS High School of Mathematics and Science and the School of Science and Technology
- Government-funded special education schools
- Post-secondary institutions, including the Institute of Technical Education, polytechnics, autonomous universities, and arts institutions

Additionally, other schools and institutes, like MOE Kindergarten, School of the Arts, and the Singapore Sports School, offer their financial support schemes. The specific financial assistance your child can apply for will depend on the type of school or institution they are enrolled in. To apply for any of these schemes, click [here](#).

MOE FINANCIAL AS

MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS)

For primary, secondary, pre-university and junior college SC students studying in:

- Government schools
- Government-aided schools
- Specialised schools:
- NorthLight School
- Assumption Pathway School
- Crest Secondary School
- Spectra Secondary School

MOE Independent School Bursary (ISB) Scheme

For secondary and junior college SC students studying in:

- [Independent schools](#)
- Specialised independent schools:
- NUS High School of Mathematics and Science
- School of Science and Technology

Specialised (SPED) Assistance

For SC students in government SPED schools

MOE Financial Assistance that you can approach for school funding needs

COMCARE

Supports lower-income households with basic living expenses, including school fees. There are several forms of assistance as follows:

1. Short-to-Medium-Term Assistance (SMTA)

Short-term assistance for low-income families and individuals who are unable to work temporarily (such as due to illness or caregiving duties), are seeking employment, or have low earnings and need help to cover essential living expenses. To apply, click [here](#).

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ComCare Short-to-Medium-Term

Benefits?

- Monthly cash assistance for living expenses
- Assistance with your household bills, i.e. rental, utilities, and/or
- Medical assistance at public healthcare institutions
- Employment assistance such as job search and/or training
- Referrals for other relevant services

Who is eligible?

- Must be a Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident, with at least one person in the same household being a Singapore Citizen.
- Have minimal or no family support, savings, or assets available to you.
- Actively seeking employment, or temporarily unable to work due to illness, disability, or for children, elderly, or other dependents.
- Monthly household income per person should not exceed S800 (if income is reviewed).
- If your income is above these guidelines but you still face financial difficulties, contact the Social Service Office (SSO) for an evaluation. The SSO will assess your financial situation, employment, family situation, and financial circumstances, to provide you with appropriate support.

2. Long-Term Assistance (LTA)

Offers long-term assistance to individuals who are permanently unable to work due to old age, illness, or disability and lack sufficient family support or savings to meet their daily needs. To apply, click [here](#).

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ComCare Long-Term Assis

Benefits?

- Monthly cash assistance for living expenses
- Assistance with medical expenses at public healthcare institutions
- Free or highly subsidised access to social support services
- Rates according to household size:
 - 1 person - S\$640
 - 2 persons - S\$1,080
 - 3 persons - S\$1,510
 - 4 persons - S\$1,930

Who is eligib

- Singapore Permanent
- Unable to age, illness
- Elderly people small mo sources s Sum/CPR
- Elderly people are low i monthly h capita o

3. Interim Assistance

Emergency financial support for individuals and families needing urgent, short-term relief. To apply, click [here](#).

The graphic is a yellow rectangular box with a white border. At the top, the text 'ComCare Interim Ass' is written in a large, bold, black font. Below this, there are two white rectangular boxes with yellow borders. The left box is titled 'Benefits?' in a bold, black font. It contains a list of four bullet points: 'Cash assistance', 'Supermarket vouchers', 'Food rations', and 'Assistance provided will depend on the household situation'. The right box is titled 'Who is eligible?' in a bold, black font. It contains a list of two bullet points: 'Singapore Permanent Residents' and 'Monthly household income per capita of less than S\$1,000'. A large, diagonal, light gray watermark reading 'default watermark' is overlaid across the center of the graphic.

ComCare Interim Ass

Benefits?

- Cash assistance
- Supermarket vouchers
- Food rations
- Assistance provided will depend on the household situation

Who is eligible?

- Singapore Permanent Residents
- Monthly household income per capita of less than S\$1,000

4. Student Care Fee Assistance

Financial support for children from low-income working families attending Student Care Centres registered with MSF. To apply, click [here](#).

Student Care Fee Assistance

Benefits?

- Subsidy of up to S290, depending on your monthly household income
- One-time Start-Up Grant (SUG) of up to S400 per child

Who is eligible?

- Child is a Singapore Citizen or a Permanent Resident (at least one immediate family member in the same household must be a Singapore Citizen)
- Both you and your spouse are each working at least 56 hours a month
- Child must attend a Student Care Centre registered with MSF
- Monthly household income of less than or equal to S4,500, or monthly household income per capita of less than or equal to S1,125

For households with 4 or fewer family members	For households with 5 or more family members
Gross Household Income (\$)	Gross Household Income (\$)
≤ 1,500	≤ 3,000
1,501 - 2,000	3,001 - 3,500
2,001 - 2,200	3,501 - 4,000
2,201 - 2,400	4,001 - 4,500
2,401 - 2,600	4,501 - 5,000
2,601 - 2,800	5,001 - 5,500
2,801 - 3,000	5,501 - 6,000
3,001 - 3,200	6,001 - 6,500
3,201 - 3,400	6,501 - 7,000
3,401 - 3,500	7,001 - 7,500
3,501 - 4,000	7,501 - 8,000
4,001 - 4,500	8,001 - 8,500

5. Kindergarten Fee Assistance Scheme (KiFAS)

Assistance to offset kindergarten fees for Singaporean children. To apply, click [here](#).

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Who is eligible?

- a** Child is a Singapore Citizen and enrolled in an Anchor Operator (AOP) or Ministry of Education (MOE) kindergarten.
- b** Family's gross monthly household income is \$12,000[^] and below, or per capita income is \$3,000* and below for larger families.

[^] Before CPF deduction and include bonuses, commissions, overtime pay and allowances.

* 5 or more family members living in the same household (applicant's spouse will be included by default regardless of residential address) with at least 3 dependants who are not earning an income.

How much can I receive?

▶ KiFAS subsidy is means-tested

- > Ranges from \$17 to \$161.
- > Lower-income families will receive more assistance.



What is Special Approval for KiFAS?

Applicants in the following groups may apply for higher subsidy support under Special Approval.



Non-parent caregivers who are caring for the child such as **grandparents, legal guardian, foster parents and children's home.**



Relevant supporting documents will be required, where applicable. Depending on the circumstances time.

6. Child Care Financial Assistance

Assistance to reduce preschool costs for Singaporean children. To apply, click [here](#).

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Who is eligible?

Any Singapore Citizen (SC) child enrolled in an ECDA-licensed infant/child care centre



What are the available subsidies?

1 Basic Subsidy

All applicants for Singapore Citizen children are eligible with more subsidies for those who are working



2 Additional Subsidy

Available to applicants for Singapore Citizen children
a) who are working and
b) whose gross monthly household income is \$12,000[^] and below or per capita income is \$3,000* and below

[^] Before CPF deduction and include bonuses, commissions, overtime pay, and allowances
^{*} 5 or more family members living in the same household (applicant's spouse will be included by default regardless of residential address) with at least 3 dependants who are not earning an income

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How much can I receive?



Basic Subsidy rates are based on the applicant's employment status and programme type enrolled

Additional Subs
lower income fa

	Working applicant		Non-w
	Basic Subsidy	Additional Subsidy	Basic Subsidy
Infant Care (aged 2 – 18 months)	\$600	Up to \$710	\$150
Child Care (aged 18 months to 6 years)	\$300	Up to \$467	\$150

Subsidies will be directly disbursed to the child's centre and you, the appli
to pay the net fee after the subsidy, financial assistance and Start-Up gran
out of your child's Child Development Account

Note: Subsidies above are based on full day programmes

What is Special Approval?

Applicants in the following groups may apply for higher subsidy support under Special App

1 Applicants who are not working due to the following circumstances:

+ Medically unfit for work due to hospitalisation, long-term illness and/or permanent disability

2 Non-parent caregivers who are caring for the child such as

3 Childre
Rental
Short-
Assist

Relevant supporting documents will be required, where applicable. Depending on the circumstances granted for a limited period.

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSIST SCHEME

All Singapore Citizens qualify for CHAS, with greater healthcare subsidies provided to lower- and middle-income households. The level of benefits depends on the household's monthly income per person (for those with an income) or the Annual Value (AV) of the home listed on the NRIC (for those without an income).

Please be aware that your and your family member's eligibility for CHAS will be evaluated based on income and other personal data from government databases. The details submitted in this form may affect your and/or your household member's eligibility for other government healthcare programs, such as MediShield Life premium subsidies, disability assistance, and more.

Benefits

Households can use this application to apply for the Community Health Assist Scheme (CHAS), which provides [subsidies](#) at participating CHAS GP and dental clinics.

Required Information

To complete this application, you will need:

- A valid Singpass to log in to the e-Service.
- The names, NRIC / Birth Certificate / FIN numbers, and contact numbers of all household members.

Refer to the CHAS online application [user guide](#). To apply, click [here](#).

If you come across other schemes available for families in need, please share them in the comment box below. Thanks for sharing in advance!

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