# Frequently Asked Questions on Provision of School Meal Subsidies During Extended Circuit Breaker Period

# No.

1. Who will receive school meal subsidies co-funded by MOE and Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund (STSPMF) during extended circuit breaker period to 1 June 2020? How much can they receive?

MOE and STSPMF will be providing meal subsidies to the following Primary and Secondary students during the extended circuit breaker period to 1 June 2020.

### i) Government and Government-aided Schools (GGAS) and Specialised Schools (SS)

Students in the primary and secondary schools whose MOE FAS applications are <u>approved (in iBENS for GGAS)</u> between January and April 2020 will receive \$60 (primary) or \$120 (secondary).

### ii) Independent Schools (ISes), NUS High and School of Science and Technology (SST)

Students in the secondary level receiving full fee subsidy under MOE Independent School Bursary (ISB) will receive \$120.

#### iii) SPED Schools

SPED FAS students will receive \$60 (primary level) or \$120 (secondary level).

2. Are there any actions required of schools to disburse the meal provision to the MOE FAS students (primary and secondary) and MOE ISB secondary school students receiving full fee subsidy?

## For GGAS

Based on the list of MOE FAS students approved by schools with starting month between January and May 2020 (extract from iBENS), MOEHQ will disburse the meal provisions centrally over two top-ups through the TransitLink eVoucher System on behalf of GGAS for all MOE FAS students in primary and secondary level. GGAS do not need to perform any action. MOEHQ will charge the expenses to MOE central vote.

#### For SS

Specialised schools will disburse over two top-ups on their own via TransitLink eVoucher System, as they currently do for normal transport subsidy. They will then claim the expenses based on the actual value of the redeemed vouchers. Please submit the list of students who redeemed the vouchers to Lim Chiew Har [lim\_chiew\_har@moe.gov.sg] between 11 June 2020 to 19 June 2020.

#### For ISes, NUS High and SST

Independent schools, NUS High and SST can continue their existing disbursement modes when disbursing the meal provision for the May school holidays. They will then claim the expenses based on the actual value disbursed. Please submit the list of students who received the provision to Lim Chiew Har [lim\_chiew\_har@moe.gov.sg] between 11 June 2020 to 19 June 2020.

# 3. Why are the primary school students on MOE FAS receiving \$60 now when they have received \$80 during full HBL?

For students on MOE FAS, MOE ISB (with full fee subsidy), and SPED FAS, the extension of MOE's school meal subsidies during the full HBL period meant primary school students would be given \$60 each, while secondary school students received \$120 each. This amount is similar to what they would have received during term time.

As the full HBL period coincided with the start of the circuit breaker period which may put some families in challenging financial situations, the Community Foundation of Singapore contributed an additional \$20 in meal subsidy for each primary school student as an additional support to plug any early gap in meal provision. This is why the amount during the initial HBL period came up to \$80 each. Since then, many other community initiatives have emerged.

4. If my school wishes to provide meal provisions for the non-MOE FAS students (i.e. students not mentioned in FAQ question 1), how can we do so? Should we only provide those receiving school meal subsidies during school term?

If your school wishes to provide meal provisions to the non-MOE FAS students, regardless of whether they have been receiving meal subsidies during school term, you can do so by tapping on your SAC, SMC or Board Fund. You may give up to \$60 (pri) or \$120 (sec) as the amount should not exceed the provision for the MOE FAS students.

#### For GGAS

For the first top-up, i.e. up to \$30 (pri) or \$60 (sec), you will need to **enter and approve the meal provision into TransitLink eVoucher System by 6 May 2020** in order for the students to be able to redeem their first top-up from 7 May 2020. For the second top-up, i.e. up to \$30 (pri) or \$60 (sec), you will need to enter and approve the meal provision into TransitLink eVoucher System by 15 May 2020 in order for the students to be able to redeem their second top-up from 18 May 2020. We seek schools' co-operation to approve by the stipulated deadline. For schools that miss the deadline or have new MOE FAS and school-based FAS students approved in May 2020, please write directly to <u>Tan Mei Shing@moe.gov.sg</u> or Chan\_May\_Ho@moe.gov.sg for assistance.

MOEHQ will charge the full amount to your SAC or SMC fund.

#### For SS

You may provide the meal provision over two top-ups into the student's School Smartcard via the TransitLink eVoucher System, with the redemption period same as the above for GGAS. Please charge the full amount to your Board or donor fund.

### For ISes, NUS High and SST

You may provide the meal provision via your existing disbursement channel. Please charge the full amount to your Board or donor fund.

5. [For Pre-U] We note that the pre-U students on the MOE FAS and MOE ISB (receiving full fee subsidy) will not be receiving meal provision from the MOE and STSPMF. If we wish to provide meal support to our MOE FAS students and non-MOE FAS students, how can we do so?

If your school wishes to provide meal provisions for the MOE FAS students, school-based FAS students or the MOE ISB students, regardless whether they have been receiving meal subsidies during school term, you can do so by tapping on your SAC, SMC or Board Fund. You may give up to \$120, pegged to the provision to MOE FAS students in secondary level.

#### For GGAS Pre-U

For the first top-up of up to \$60, you will need to **enter and approve the meal provision into TransitLink eVoucher System by 6 May 2020** so that the students can redeem their first top-up from 7 May 2020. For the second top-up of up to \$60, you will need to enter and approve the meal provision into TransitLink eVoucher System by 15 May 2020 in order for the students to be able to redeem their second top-up from 18 May 2020. We seek schools' co-operation to approve by the stipulated deadline. For schools that miss the deadline or have new MOE FAS and school-based FAS students approved in May 2020, please write directly to Tan Mei Shing@moe.gov.sg or Chan May Ho@moe.gov.sg for assistance.

For GGAS pre-U, MOEHQ will charge the full amount to your SAC or SMC fund.

### For ISes with JC level and NUS High

You may provide the meal provision via your existing disbursement channel. Please charge the full amount to your Board or donor fund.

# 6. [For GGAS] When will the MOE FAS students and non-MOE FAS students receive their top-up in their School Smartcard?

MOE FAS students can start to redeem the first top-up at the TransitLink Add Value Machine from 5 May 2020 to 10 June 2020, while non-MOE FAS students can start to redeem the first top-up at the TransitLink Add Value Machine from 7 May 2020 to 10 June 2020. All students, MOE FAS and non-MOE FAS, can redeem the second top-up from 18 May 2020 to 10 June 2020.

All top up must be redeemed by 10 June 2020. There will be no extension of redemption period. Parents can redeem on behalf of their children.

We will also extend the original redemption deadline of 15 May for the meal subsidies for the MOE FAS, non-MOE FAS students and the Recess@Home recipients provided during the HBL period to 10 June 2020.

# 7. What funds can schools use to provide meal subsidies to FAS students if they asked to return to schools during May school holidays?

Schools can use MOE school-based FAS grant or their SAC/SMC/Board fund to provide school meal subsidies for their meals in schools to the FAS students for the days they are asked to return to schools during May school holidays.

For further queries on the meal provision during May school holidays, please contact your respective finance partners below.

- MOE FPD FP North (MOE) MOE FPD FP North@moe.gov.sq
- MOE FPD FP South (MOE) MOE FPD FP South@moe.gov.sq
- MOE FPD FP East (MOE) MOE\_FPD\_FP\_East@moe.gov.sg
- MOE FPD FP West (MOE) MOE\_FPD\_FP\_West@moe.gov.sg

#### Alternatively, you can also contact the following officers:

- Ms Low Wei Ling at LOW\_Wei\_Ling@moe.gov.sg on meal provision policy-related matters.
- Ms Tan Mei Shing at TAN\_Mei\_Shing@moe.gov.sg on TL evoucher system and redemption via school smartcard.