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The Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports (MCYS) will be enhancing the Centre-based Financial Assistance Scheme for Childcare (CFAC) to make childcare more affordable for low-income families. From 1 January 2009, CFAC will be extended beyond the fourth child, to all children in a family. In addition, CFAC subsidies will be equalised for all children regardless of their birth order.

2 Presently, only the first four children in a family are eligible for CFAC. The third and fourth children receive lower CFAC subsidies compared to the first two children. With effect from 1 January 2009, all children in eligible low-income families would receive the same amount of CFAC subsidy up to a maximum of \$340 a month, depending on the family's monthly income and the actual childcare fees charged. More details can be found in [Annex A](#).

Background Information

3 CFAC was introduced in 1993 with the objective of supporting mothers who wish to find full-time employment or undergo training in preparation for work. As part of the ComCare GROW programme pillar, CFAC focuses on the developmental needs of children from needy families, to help them break out of the poverty cycle. CFAC is given on top of the universal childcare subsidy of \$300 that working mothers are eligible for.

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ISSUED BY

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, YOUTH AND SPORTS

Annex A

Centre-Based Financial Assistance Scheme for Childcare (CFAC)

Purpose

The scheme provides a monthly fee subsidy, over and above the \$300 Government child care subsidy given to working mothers, for low-income Singaporean families who place their children in child care centres. This allows the mothers to take on full-time employment.

Eligibility for CFAC

The mother, and the child attending child care, must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- The child is a Singapore citizen. If the child is a permanent resident of Singapore (PR), at least one member of his immediate family must be a Singapore citizen;
- The child is below 7 years old and is attending a licensed child care centre;
- The child's family monthly income is \$1,800 and below; and
- The child's mother is working.

Extending equal CFAC subsidies and Start-Up Grant to all Birth Orders

From 1 Jan 2009, MCYS will extend CFAC subsidies beyond the fourth child for eligible low-income families. All eligible children would receive the same CFAC subsidy currently provided to the first and second child. CFAC subsidies would vary depending on the family's income levels and the actual childcare fees charged as follows:

	Current		WEF 1 Jan 09
Monthly Household Income	Maximum CFAC subsidy per month for 1st / 2nd child	Maximum CFAC subsidy per month for 3rd / 4th child	Maximum CFAC subsidy per month for each child
≤\$500	Up to \$340	Up to \$275	Up to \$340
\$501-\$1,000	Up to \$300	Up to \$200	Up to \$300
\$1,001 - \$1,500	Up to \$250	Up to \$150	Up to \$250
\$1,501 - \$1,800	Up to \$200	Up to \$100	Up to \$200

Applications for CFAC

You can either approach the child care centre where your child is enrolled or your nearest Community Development Council (CDC) for more information on CFAC.

CDC	Address	Telephone Number
Central Singapore CDC	HDB Hub Bizthree 490, Lorong 6 Toa Payoh # 04-10 S (310490)	Tel: 6370 9901 Fax: 6370 9928
North East CDC	3 Tampines Grande # 01-02 AIA Tampines S (528799)	Tel: 6424 4000 Fax: 6424 4077
North West CDC	900 South Woodlands Drive Woodlands Civic Centre # 01-04 S (730900)	Tel: 6767 2288 Fax: 6219 1176
South East CDC	10 Eunos Road 8 Singapore Post Centre # 02-01 S (408600)	Tel: 6243 8753 Fax: 6243 3130
South West CDC	The JTC Summit	Tel: 6316 1616

CDC	Address	Telephone Number
	8 Jurong Town Hall Road #03-11 S (609434)	Fax: 6316 7251