

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- 1. How is household income determined for Additional Subsidy? If the mother is not working, how will it be calculated?**

The monthly household income is based on the gross combined income of both parents. If the mother is not working, the household income will be based on the single income of the other parent.

For larger families with 5 or more members, with more than 2 dependants who are not earning an income, Additional Subsidy will be computed based on Per Capita Income, or PCI. This enables larger families to qualify for more subsidy support.

- 2. Does the enhanced subsidy support under Special Approval apply for infant care too?**

Yes, the enhanced subsidy support under Special Approval applies for infant care. Parents will receive Basic and Additional Subsidy under the infant care subsidy framework, i.e. \$600 per month for Basic Subsidy, and up to \$540 for Additional Subsidy.

- 3. How much subsidy will be provided for the older child in child care, if a non-working mother is caring for multiple younger siblings under 24 months?**

A mother who is caring for younger children below 24 months old, will receive the same subsidies for her older children enrolled in child care, regardless of the number of younger children she is caring for.

Larger families may apply for Additional Subsidy to be computed based on Per Capita Income, or PCI, instead of Household Income.

- 4. Are single parents eligible for child care subsidies?**

Yes, subsidies are applicable to single parents. The household income will be determined accordingly, based on the single income of the parent.

- 5. Will parents of children enrolled in child care who are already receiving subsidies automatically benefit from the subsidy enhancements?**

The subsidy enhancements will be applied to all new Special Approval applications received from 1 March 2019 onwards. Where feasible, ECDA will reach out to parents who are currently already receiving support under Special

Approval, and who continue to be eligible from 1 March 2019 onwards, to transit them onto the enhanced benefits.

**6. What if the household income levels change after parents have applied for Additional Subsidy? Will the subsidy amount change?**

Parents may re-submit their subsidy application to their preschool at any point in time if the household's financial circumstances have changed. ECDA will reassess the amount of Additional Subsidy based on the latest household income.

**7. What will be covered under the Occupational Health and Safety Assessment? When will ECDA share the results of the assessment?**

The assessment will evaluate the work roles and environments of preschool staff, and identify organisational factors that impact their physical and mental welfare. The consultant appointed to conduct the assessment will also work with a panel of experts to propose interventions such as staff resources, training programmes, and enhancements to work environments that can improve the well-being of preschool employees. ECDA will provide more details on the joint occupational health and safety assessment at a later date.