Construction Sector Support Measures

15 July 2020



Support Measures to Help the Industry Sustain Till It Fully Restarts

We will deploy measures to help industry tide through this period and emerge stronger.



- Manpower costs (i.e. JSS, FW Levy Waiver & Rebate)
- To protect employment outcomes and livelihood of residents
- To support firms with inactive construction worker
- B Companies' cashflow and business sustainability (i.e. Prolongation Costs, Advance Payment, Temporary Bridging Loan Programme)
 - Coping with prolongation as not all construction projects have been able to restart as yet.
 - Tap on Temporary Bridging Loan Programme (TBLP)
- C Compliance costs to new restart criteria (i.e. Swab, SMOs, Construction Restart Booster)
 - To reduce costs arising from compliance with new restart criteria
 - To help firms defray costs in procuring additional material/equipment to comply with COVID-Safe Worksite requirements to ensure works resume safely.

A. Supporting Firms on Manpower Costs

Jobs Support Scheme (JSS) for SC/SPR workforce in the BE Sector

What?

- The Construction-related sector is deemed not to have restarted in June August
- Govt will provide wage support for employers
- Co-fund 75% for the first \$4,600 of gross monthly wages for eligible SC/SPR employees, from June to August. Payout in October.

Who Qualifies?

- All Construction and Consultancy firms with eligible SC/SPR will qualify for enhanced JSS support till Aug
 - ✓ Contractor: SSIC 41-43
 - ✓ Consultants: SSIC 71111, 71113,71121,71125 or registered with PSPC

How to Apply?

• No application required. Disbursement via IRAS

A. Supporting Firms on Manpower Costs

2 FW Levy Waiver & Rebate

What?

• Govt will provide:

✓ 100% and 50% FW levy waiver in May and Jun 2020 respectively (for each WPH or S Pass holder)

✓ \$750 and \$375 FW levy rebate in Jun and Jul 2020 respectively (for each WPH or S Pass holder)

✓ \$90 FW levy rebate from Aug 2020 to Dec 2021 (for WPH only)

Who Qualifies?

• Firms with Construction FW will qualify for levy waiver and rebate

How to Apply?

• No application required. Disbursement via MOM/IRAS

B. Supporting Firms on Business Sustainability

Co-sharing of Prolongation Costs

What?

- Co-share, on ex-gratia basis, 50% of the non-manpower prolongation costs for delays due to (i) the Circuit Breaker (CB) and Controlled Restart post-CB, and (ii) loss of productivity in compliance with COVID-Safe requirements. Supportable examples include plant & equipment, and site maintenance costs.
- Up to 0.2% of contract sum per month of delay, capped at 1.8% of contract sum.
- Claims for delays must be accompanied by Certified Extensions of Time (EOTs) due to COVID-19.

Who Qualifies?

• Main contractor of on-going public sector contracts and tenders closed <u>on or before 1 Jun 2020</u>.

How to Apply?

 Main contractor is required to submit the breakdown of additional cost incurred, incl costs incurred by their subcontractors and/or suppliers, as well as documentary proof such as invoices (where requested)

B. Supporting Firms on Business Sustainability

2 Extension of Advance Payment for Public Sector Projects

What?

- Advance payment for public sector construction projects during the "Circuit Breaker" and "Extended Circuit Breaker" period until work has obtained approval to resume or 31 Dec 2020, whichever is earlier
- Monthly AP cap of 2.5% of awarded contract sum or \$5mil, whichever is lower
- Overall AP cap of 5% of contract sum or \$10mil, whichever is lower
- Main contractors are expected to pass down a portion to their sub-contractors and/or suppliers

Who Qualifies?

• Main contractors with on-going public sector construction projects affected by the suspension of construction works and the sub-contractors and suppliers.

How to Apply?

• Main contractor can submit the claim for AP either in their regular progress payment claim or as a standalone payment claim, and include a list of its first level sub-contractors involved in the works originally scheduled during the stop work period

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B. Supporting Firms on Business Sustainability

3 Tap on Temporary Bridging Loan Programme (TBLP)

What?

- Tap on Govt's Temporary Bridging Loan Programme (TBLP) to ease cashflow
- 90% govt risk-share & low interest rates capped at 5% (most banks offering 2.4-2.5%)
- Borrow up to \$5mil per enterprise, up to 1 year deferral of principal repayment (subj. to banks' assessment)
- No need collaterals but requires 100% personal guarantee as commitment to repay loan

Who Qualifies?

- Business entity registered & physically present in SG
- At least 30% local equity held directly/indirectly by SC/SPR

How to Apply?

• Apply through local banks

<u>Note</u>: There are about 2,000 approved TBLP applications for construction firms (as at Jul 2020).

Swab Costs

What?

• Govt will fund the cost of swab tests for construction projects until 31 Mar 2021, to help ensure a safe restart of the construction sector.

Who Qualifies?

• All personnel arranged by BCA for swab test arrangements under Construction Sector, including construction workers, consultant/ developer/ GPEs' employees entering construction sites

How to Apply?

- All swab tests are strictly on appointment basis once BCA approves the restart application
- An online swab appointment service by HPB is currently being piloted. More details will be released soon

Salary Support for SMOs (Applicable to Builders with Sites)

What?

- Co-fund 50% of the first \$4,600 of gross monthly wages for SMO.
- Support cap is as per COVID-Safe Worksite requirements: 1 supportable SMO for each construction project.
- For a 6-month window (from Sep 2020 to Feb 2021).

Who Qualifies?

- SMOs who are SC/SPR
- Completed SMO course provided by BCAA / SCAL Academy / NTUC Learning Hub
- Each SMO must be tagged to a unique construction project

How to Apply?

• More details will be shared in a separate circular

3 COVID-Safe Firm-Based Support

* NEW (Construction Restart Booster)

What?

• Co-shares the additional costs incurred by firms to comply with COVID-safe requirements (e.g. PPEs and masks for workers, & individually packed meals).

Who Qualifies?

- Provide \$400 per construction worker employed (i.e. Work Permit Holders (WPHs) and S-Pass holders) per firm.
- All firms employing construction workers as at 27 Jun 2020 are eligible.

How to Apply?

- No application required. Disbursement via GIRO (register with Vendors@Gov).
- To receive the support by 31 July 2020, register with <u>Vendors@Gov</u> by 20 July 2020.
 Latest registration will be by 20 Aug 2020 (to receive the support by 31 Aug 2020)



4 COVID-Safe Project-Based Support * NEW (Construction Restart Booster)

What?

- Support for additional costs related to ensuring project sites comply with requirements (e.g. temperature screening facilities, contact tracing systems and safe distancing measures).
- The support levels will be based on the project contract value as follows:
 - ✓ Contract Value \$100,000 & above, support amount 1.5% of the project contract value, capped at \$150,000 maximum support per project.
 - ✓ Contract value below \$100,000, support amount \$1,000

Who Qualifies?

Main contractors with ongoing construction projects (as of 27 June 2020).

How to Apply?

 Main contractors must apply through <u>https://go.gov.sg/construction-restart-booster</u> by 7 August 2020.



• Disbursement via GIRO (registered with Vendors@Gov).

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Thank You

