

Dear Training Providers (including Registered Training Providers),

## [SSG Circular/RPD/2021/2]: REMINDER ON SKILLSFUTURE FUNDING CHANGES AND EXTENSION OF FUNDING SUPPORT TO LONG TERM VISIT PASS PLUS (LTVP+) HOLDERS

#### SkillsFuture Funding Changes

On 29 April 2021, SSG informed training providers of the following SkillsFuture funding changes, as part of our continual review of our schemes to ensure relevance and effective use of our resources:

- a) Revisions to SkillsFuture Course Fee Funding
- b) Revisions to Absentee Payroll Funding
- c) Phasing out of SkillsFuture Qualification Award

2. Please refer to <u>SSG Circular/RPD/2021/1: Revisions to SkillsFuture Course</u> <u>Fee Funding, Absentee Payroll Funding and Phasing Out of SkillsFuture Qualification</u> <u>Award</u> for details on the above changes. These changes are also published on our online channels such as the SkillsFuture website and MySkillsFuture portal.

3. We wish to remind training providers that the revised course fee funding and absentee payroll funding will apply to courses <u>commencing on or after 1 January 2022</u>, regardless of the course enrolment date<sup>1</sup>. Please ensure that

- a) All relevant information in your organisation's publicity materials and websites, including course information and nett fees payable for courses commencing on or after 1 January 2022, are promptly updated; and
- b) Individuals and enterprises signing up for your courses commencing on or after 1 January 2022 are duly informed of the changes, including any updates to the nett fees payable.

4. Training Partners Gateway and the Enterprise Portal for Jobs & Skills have been built to support the revised course fee funding and absentee payroll funding, respectively:

- a) For courses with Letter of Appointment (LOA), training providers are required to submit a course edit and update the CETC funding value in the Training Partners Gateway to reflect the updated funding rates;
- b) Training providers may proceed to submit enrolments for course runs that commence on or after 1 January 2022, except for Assessment Only Pathway (AOP) courses;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Training providers are required to submit enrolment records on TPGateway any time prior to and up to 14 calendar days after the course commencement date for the enrolment to be funded.



- c) For AOP courses, training providers are advised to submit enrolments for course runs that commence on or after 1 January 2022, only from 1 November 2021 onwards to ensure that the revised course fee funding will be reflected; and
- d) Training providers that had previously submitted early enrolments for course runs that commence on or after 1 January 2022 may view the updated course fee funding 14 (public) or 28 (in-house) calendar days after the course run end date. Alternatively, please refer to <u>Annex A</u> for instructions to trigger the funding recalculation manually.

## Extension of Funding Support to Long Term Visit Pass Plus (LTVP+) Holders

5. With effect from 1 October 2021, training support for Continuing Education and Training (CET) will be extended to LTVP+ holders (see Annex B for details):

- Course fee subsidies for MOE/SSG-funded modular courses, which include stackable modular courses offered by the publicly-funded Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs), WSQ Statement of Attainment (SOA) and WSQ Assessment-Only Pathway (AOPs);
- Course fee subsidies for SSG-funded WSQ qualifications and non-WSQ qualifications. LTVP+ holders are **not** eligible for subsidies for MOE-funded full qualification programmes offered by the IHLs<sup>2</sup>;
- Absentee payroll (AP) support to employers who send their LTVP+ employees for training in MOE/SSG-funded modular courses, as listed under (i) and SSG-funded WSQ qualifications and non-WSQ qualifications, as listed under (ii);
- iv. Enhanced Training Support for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) (ETSS) that send employees who are LTVP+ holders for training in MOE/SSG-funded modular courses, as listed under (i) and SSGfunded WSQ qualifications and non-WSQ qualifications, as listed under (ii); and
- v. Work-Study (WS) placement incentives for employers participating in Work-Study programmes and employ trainees who are LTVP+ holders.

6. LTVP+ holders will <u>not</u> be eligible for SGUnited Skills (SGUS), SGUnited Mid-Career Pathways Programme-Company Training (SGUP-CT) and Career Conversion Programmes (CCPs) (which include both Professional Conversion Programmes (PCPs) and Rank-and-File programmes)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This refers to part-time and full-time MOE-funded full qualification programmes at the Institute of Technical Education (ITE), Polytechnics and Autonomous Universities. This includes *Higher Nitec* and *Nitec*, Diploma, Post-Diploma, Undergraduate Degree and Postgraduate Degree programmes.



7. The LTVP+ scheme currently applies to lawful foreign spouses of Singapore Citizens (SCs) with (i) at least one SC child or are expecting one from the marriage, or at least three years of marriage, and (ii) where the SC sponsor is able to support the family. LTVP+ holders can be identified with their green visit pass cards, with the word 'PLUS' on the back of the card.

8. The training support for LTVP+ holders will apply to courses commencing on and after 1 October 2021, regardless of the course enrolment date<sup>1</sup>.

9. The grant disbursement process for LTVP+ trainees, such as submission of enrolment, attendance and assessment records will follow the existing processes applicable for SC/PR trainees on <u>Training Partners Gateway</u>.

10. This Circular is applicable to Registered Training Providers (as defined in the SkillsFuture Singapore Agency Terms for Training Providers), and amends the Terms for Training Providers to include the extension of funding support to the LTVP+ holders (see <u>Annex C</u> for amendments).

11. Should you require further assistance, please contact SSG at 6785 5785 or submit your enquiries via SSG's feedback portal at <u>https://portal.ssg-wsg.gov.sg/feedback</u>.

Thank you.

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Annex A

## TRIGGERING FUNDING RECALCULATION ON TPGATEWAY

Revised Course Fee funding and Absentee Payroll funding will apply to courses commencing on or after 1 January 2022.

If you had **previously** submitted enrolments for course runs that commence on or after 1 January 2022, the updated Course Fee funding will only be reflected 14/28\* calendar days after the course run end date. Alternatively, you may trigger the funding recalculation manually with the following steps:

- From "Enrolment" tile, search and click on the course run that commence on or after 1 January 2022
- Under "**Trainees**" section, click on the enrolment
- Under "Enrolment Fees" section, update the "Course Fee Discount (where applicable)" field with a fictitious value and click on "Calculate Funding" button
- Re-update the "Course Fee Discount (where applicable)" field to the intended value and click on "Calculate Funding" button
- Revised funding and nett fee will be reflected under "Enrolment Fees" section

\*14 calendar days for public Training Providers, 28 calendar days for in-house Training Providers



Annex B

## TRAINING BENEFITS EXTENDED TO LTVP+ HOLDERS

#### 1. Course fee subsidies for MOE/SSG-funded modular courses and WSQ courses

		For courses commencing on and after 1 October 2021 and before 1 Jan 2022	For courses commencing on and after 1 Jan 2022	
Courses by SSG- appointed CET Centres	Non-PMET Level	Up to 90% of course fees	Up to 70% of course fees	
	PMET Level	Up to 70% of course fees		
Certifiable courses approved by SSG (Conducted by External Training Providers)	Non-PMET Level	Up to 80% of course fees subsidy, capped at \$17 per hour		
	PMET Level	Up to 50% of course fees subsidy, capped at \$15 per hour	Up to 50% of course fee	
Certifiable courses approved by SSG (Conducted by in- house instructors)	Non-PMET Level	\$7 per hour	\$7 per hour	
	PMET Level	\$15 per hour		
Non-certifiable courses approved by SSG	Non-PMET and PMET Level	\$2 per hour	\$2 per hour	
IHL stackable modular and short courses	Offered by AUs/ Polys/ ITE	Up to 70% of course fees <sup>3</sup>		
ITE Skills Certificate	Offered by ITE	Up to 67% of course fees <sup>3</sup>		
ITE General Education	Offered by ITE	Up to 67% of course fees <sup>3</sup>		

2. Absentee Payroll support to employers who send employees who are LTVP+ holders for MOE/SSG-funded modular courses and WSQ courses

	For courses commencing on and after 1 October 2021 and before 1 Jan 2022	For courses commencing on and after 1 Jan 2022	
	(Enhanced Absentee Payroll under Enhanced Training Support Package (ETSP))		
Absentee Payroll Funding for SSG- supported courses	80% of hourly basic salary, capped at \$7.50 per hour	\$4.50 per hour, capped at \$100,000 per enterprise per calendar year	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The course fee subsidy for LTVP+ holders for IHLs' modular courses is pegged at the same rate as for Permanent Residents (PRs).



3. Enhanced Training Support Scheme (ETSS) for employers that send employees who are LTVP+ holders for training

		For courses commencing on and after 1 October 2021 and before 1 Jan 2022	For courses commencing on and after 1 Jan 2022	
Courses by SSG-	Non-PMET Level	Up to 90% of course fee	Up to 90% of course fees	
appointed CET Centres	PMET Level	Up to 90% of course fee		
Certifiable courses approved by SSG (Conducted by External Training Providers)	Non-PMET Level	Up to 90% of course fees, capped at \$25 per hour		
	PMET Level	Up to 90% of course fees, capped at \$50 per hour	Up to 70% of course fees	
Certifiable courses approved by SSG (Conducted by in- house instructors)	Non-PMET Level		\$15 per hour	
	PMET Level	\$15 per hour		
IHL Stackable Modular and short courses	Offered by AUs/ Polys/ ITE	Up to 90% of course fees	Up to 90% of course fees	
ITE Skills Certificate	Offered by ITE	Up to 90% of course fees <sup>4</sup>	Up to 90% of course fees <sup>4</sup>	

# 4. Work-Study incentive grants for employers participating in Work-Study programmes and employ trainees who are LTVP+ holders

Work-Study Post- Diplomas, Diplomas and Certificates	Employers receive up to \$15,000 per eligible SC/PR/LTVP+ placed in the Work-Study Post-Diploma/Diploma/Certificate.
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Enhanced subsidy under ETSS is only applicable if base fee subsidy is lower than ETSS funding of up to 90%.

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Annex C

# AMENDMENTS TO THE TERMS FOR TRAINING PROVIDERS

- 1. Paragraph 2(j)(ii) of the Appendix E of the SkillsFuture Singapore Agency <u>Terms for Training Providers</u> shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:-
  - "(ii) must be Singapore Citizen(s), Singapore Permanent Resident(s) or holder(s) of a Long Term Visit Pass Plus issued by Singapore's Immigration and Checkpoints Authority;"