

Recipients of social security payments or Working Family Allowance to receive one-off extra allowance

â€‹The Government today (May 26) announced that, as set out in the 2025-26 Budget, a one-off extra allowance equal to one half of the monthly payment or allowance will be provided to eligible recipients of social security payments, including recipients of the standard rate of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance, Old Age Allowance, Old Age Living Allowance and Disability Allowance. Similar arrangements will apply to households receiving the Working Family Allowance (WFA). The above recipients will receive the extra allowance starting from today (details in the Annex).

A Government spokesman said that recipients who were eligible for social security payments on April 30, 2025 (i.e. the date on which the Legislative Council approved the Appropriation Bill 2025), and the households for which WFA applications were made within the period from October 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025, and approved would be eligible for the one-off extra allowance. It is estimated that about 1.71 million social security recipients and about 56 000 WFA households would benefit, involving a total of about \$3,084 million in extra expenditure. The payment will be credited to the designated Hong Kong bank accounts of the eligible recipients/households and no separate application is required.

For enquiries, recipients of social security payments may call the hotline of the Social Welfare Department (2343 2255) or contact the respective Social Security Field Unit. As for enquiries from households in receipt of the WFA, please call the hotline of the Working Family Allowance Office of the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency (2558 3000).