

**The Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme  
Improvement measure to the provision of Disregarded Earnings**

All categories of recipients in cases which have been on CSSA for not less than two months are eligible for Disregarded Earnings (DE) benefits. The Social Welfare Department will implement the following improvement measure to the provision of DE with effect from **1 February 2021**:

(A) Raising the maximum level of monthly DE from \$2,500 to \$4,000

The maximum level of monthly DE is raised from \$2,500 to \$4,000. With this improvement, the first \$1,200 of a recipient's monthly earnings from employment can be totally disregarded. The calculation is illustrated below:

<u>Arrangement before 1 February 2021</u>		<u>Arrangement from 1 February 2021</u>	
<u>Earnings</u>	<u>Maximum amount to be disregarded (level of disregard)</u>	<u>Earnings</u>	<u>Maximum amount to be disregarded (level of disregard)</u>
First \$800	\$800 (100%)	<b>First \$1,200</b>	<b>\$1,200 (100%)</b>
Next \$3,400	\$1,700 (50%)	<b>Next \$5,600</b>	<b>\$2,800 (50%)</b>
\$4,200 or above	\$2,500 (The first \$800 and half of next \$3,400)	<b>\$6,800 or above</b>	<b>\$4,000 (The first \$1,200 and half of next \$5,600)</b>

(B) Increasing the maximum level of earnings to be totally disregarded from a new job to a maximum of the first two months' income

For a recipient aged 15 or above, the maximum level of his/her earnings from a new job to be totally disregarded is increased from the first month's income to a maximum of the first two months' income from a new job, on condition that the recipient has not benefited from this provision during the past two years.