

**An Example to illustrate how the CSSA payment is calculated**

A 4-member family comprises the unemployed able-bodied applicant, his wife who is a homemaker, and two children aged 16 and 7 respectively. The elder child is a full-day higher secondary school student and needs to take lunch away from home while the younger child is studying in a half-day primary school. Monthly expenses of the family include rent of \$3,500, water and sewage charges and fares to and from school of \$400 for the two children. The amount of monthly **CSSA** payable to this incomeless family is :

<u>Recognised needs:</u>	<u>(\$)</u>	
Standard rates (for an able-bodied adult, a family-carer and 2 able-bodied children : \$1,690 + \$2,050 + \$1,880 x 2)	7,500	
Special grants for		
rent	3,500	(Note 1)
water and sewage charges	56	
meal allowance for the student	275	
travelling expenses to and from school	400	(Note 2)
<b>CSSA payable =</b>	<b>11,731</b>	

**Note 1:** The amount to be allowed for rent is the actual rent paid or the maximum rent allowance (MRA) appropriate to the number of eligible members in a family, whichever is the less. The MRA with effect from February 2016 is as follows:

<u>No. of eligible members in the household</u>	<u>Maximum level per month</u> (\$)
1	1,735
2	3,490
3	4,560
4	4,850
5	4,865
6 or above	6,080

**Note 2:** The amount of grant to cover fares to and from school is calculated by the actual expenses paid (normally by the cheapest means of available transport).

## Annex

Moreover, a flat-rate grant is payable to full-time students up to the upper secondary level for selected items of school related expenses (i.e., books, stationery, school uniforms, miscellaneous and minor one-off expenses). The rates for the 2016/17 school year are as follows:

<u>Education level</u>	<u>Full grant per student per school year</u> (\$)
Child Care Centre (Group aged 0-2/ Group aged 2-3)	1,650
Kindergarten (Nursery/Lower/Upper)	3,770
Primary (Primary 1-6)	5,090
Lower secondary (Secondary 1-3)	6,775
Upper secondary (Senior Secondary 1 - 3 (Secondary 4 - 6)/technical/commercial institutes)	6,000

The special grant to cover costs of glasses is payable to children. The amount of this grant is up to a maximum of \$500. Normally, the special grant is given to cover the cost of only one pair of glasses within 24 months.