## SUMMARY OF SINGAPORE'S MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE MARRIAGE AND PARENTHOOD

Measure	What it means
GETTING MARRIED	
Finding a partner	The Social Development Network (SDN) facilitates social interaction among singles
Housing Schemes	Priority is given to first-time applicants in purchasing HDB Build-to-Order flats. Young couples can also apply for CPF Housing Grants (such as the Family Grant and the Additional CPF Housing Grant) to help them finance the purchase of public housing
HAVING CHILDREN	
Medisave Maternity Package	Medisave can be used to help pay for delivery and pre- delivery expenses
Co-funding for assisted reproduction technology (ART) treatment	Government will co-fund ART treatment received at public hospitals
Medisave for assisted conception procedures	Up to \$6,000, \$5,000 and \$4,000 can be used from couples' Medisave for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd time that Medisave is used for assisted conception procedures
RAISING AND CARING FOR CHILDREN	
Baby Bonus	Parents can get a cash gift of \$4,000 each for their 1st and 2nd child, and \$6,000 each for their 3rd and 4th child Savings to their children's Child Development Account (CDA) will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$6,000 each for their 1st and 2nd child, up to \$12,000 each for their 3rd and 4th child, and up to \$18,000 each from the 5th child onwards <sup>15</sup>
Parenthood Tax Rebate (PTR)	Parents can claim the PTR of \$5,000 for their 1st child, \$10,000 for their 2nd child, and \$20,000 per child for all subsequent children
Qualifying/ Handicapped Child Relief (QCR/HCR)	Parents can claim \$4,000 per child under the QCR or \$5,500 per child under the HCR
Working Mother's Child Relief (WMCR)	Working mothers can claim the WMCR at 15% of earned income for their 1st child, 20% for their 2nd and 25% per child for all subsequent children
Grandparent Caregiver Relief (GCR)	Working mothers whose children aged 12 and below are cared for by their grandparents can claim the GCR of \$3,000

-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> With effect from 1 Jan 2013, the CDA will be extended by 6 years. This means that the CDA of a child will remain open until 31 December of the child's 12<sup>th</sup> year, instead of the current 6<sup>th</sup> year. From 1 Jul 2012, parents will also enjoy an expanded scope of approved uses for CDA.

Subsidies for centre based

infant care & child care<sup>16</sup>

Parents can enjoy a monthly subsidy of up to \$600 and up to \$300 for infant care and child care respectively

Foreign Domestic Worker Levy Concession

Parents can enjoy a \$95 levy concession if they have a young child aged below 12 staying with them

## **WORK-LIFE SUPPORT**

Maternity leave

Mothers have maternity leave of 16 weeks

Child care leave

Both parents have 6 days of paid child care leave per year

each if they have a child aged below 7 years

Infant care leave

Both parents may take 6 days of unpaid infant care leave per year each if they have any child aged below 2 years

Work-Life Works! (WOW!) Fund

Organisations can use the Fund to subsidise costs of consultancy and training leading to implementation of

better work-life strategies

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> The Government also seeks to ensure that parents have access to good quality and affordable child care. There are now 982 child care centres as of May 2012, up from 749 in 2008. These centres now cater to 88,650 children compared to 63,852 in 2008.