

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

\$4 Million Fund for Adults with Disabilities To foster Lifelong Learning

Singapore's five Community Development Councils (CDCs) and Temasek Trust Ltd launched a new 'Temasek Trust - CDC Lifelong Learning Enabling Fund' - to support 4,000 adults with disabilities in their lifelong learning through training subsidies and learning support services

SINGAPORE, 8 SEPTEMBER 2021 – The 'Temasek Trust – CDC Lifelong Learning Enabling Fund' was announced this afternoon – a Community Fund set up to subsidise training fees and learning support services for about 4,000 adults with disabilities.

This Fund is set up by the five CDCs and Temasek Trust, and will be administered by SG Enable. Each eligible adult with disability can apply for up to S\$1,000 to defray course-related fees and/or learning support devices and services. Applications will start in early December 2021, to align with the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

This new Fund is launched in the midst of COVID-19 pandemic, where home-based learning, working from home and widespread use of technology are now part of the new normal. It seeks to ensure persons with disabilities acquire the relevant vocational and independent living skills and emerge stronger from the pandemic.

Ms Denise Phua, Mayor of Central Singapore District, said the programme is meant to not only mitigate the impact of COVID-19, but also to nudge more persons with disabilities to adopt lifelong learning. "Many adults with disabilities do not have much learning opportunities and may stop learning after their formal schooling years. The five CDCs hope that this Fund will nudge them to embark on continued education and training so they can stay relevant and not be left behind. We also want to encourage training providers to develop more inclusive and accessible training programmes for persons with disabilities. We are very grateful to Temasek Trust who has come on board to address this key need area of need; and we encourage more donors to join us to support the disability community," she said.

Ms Cheo Hock Kuan, CEO of Temasek Trust, said, "Persons with disabilities have been affected disproportionately by the pandemic. Temasek Trust's oscar@sg fund is glad to be part of this initiative which provides adult learners with disabilities more opportunities to upskill and empower themselves. As our economy slowly reopens, we need to progress together, as one inclusive society."

Ms Ku Geok Boon, Chief Executive Officer of SG Enable, said, "We are very grateful to Temasek Trust, and the 5 CDCs for their strong support for the disability cause. We see this grant supporting the holistic development of persons with disabilities in vocational or employment training, and providing more meaningful engagement and skills development opportunities especially in this challenging COVID-19 period."

More details will be provided by the five CDCs, SG Enable and Temasek Trust when applications start in December 2021.

#END#

Enclosed:

Annex A: Zoom Group Photo(s) for the Virtual Media Launch of 'Temasek Trust-CDC Lifelong Learning Enabling Fund'

Annex B: Soundbites for the Virtual Media Launch of 'Temasek Trust-CDC Lifelong Learning Enabling Fund'

Annex C: Chinese Translation of the Press Release for the Virtual Media Launch of "Temasek Trust-CDC Lifelong Learning Enabling Fund"

Annex D: Factsheet

Annex E: Frequently-Asked-Questions

Annex F: Media Profiles

For media enquiries, please contact:

Mr Vincent Chia

Senior Manager (Communications, Partnerships and Programmes)
Central Singapore CDC
M: 9889 7842
E: Vincent_CHIA@pa.gov.sg

Ms Calyn Koh

Assistant Manager (Communications)
Central Singapore CDC
M: 9787 2901
E: Calyn_KOH@pa.gov.sg

Ms Poon Shing Yi

Associate Director
Temasek Trust
M: 9750 1707
E: shingyi@temasektrust.org.sg

About Temasek Trust

Established in 2007, Temasek Trust is an independent steward of philanthropic endowments and gifts. Its purpose is to ensure sustainable funding for the long-term well-being and security of our communities. Temasek Trust provides governance and financial oversight of endowments for Temasek Foundation, Stewardship Asia Centre and Temasek Life Sciences Laboratory. The work at Temasek Trust supports a common purpose of doing good, uplifting lives and advancing communities in Singapore and beyond. Temasek Trust strives also to enable new pathways for philanthropy and to inspire and enable giving.

About Central Singapore Community Development Council

Situated at the heart of Singapore, Central Singapore Community Development Council (CDC) serves more than one million residents living in Ang Mo Kio, Bishan-Toa Payoh, Jalan Besar and Tanjong Pagar Group Representation Constituencies (GRCs), and Kebun Baru, Marymount, Potong Pasir, Radin Mas, as well as Yio Chu Kang Single Member Constituencies (SMCs). The CDC envisions itself as a Do-Good district that aims to help our residents live The Better Life. It works in close partnership with schools, voluntary welfare organisations (VWOs), grassroots organisations (GROs), government and commercial agencies to serve as an Aggregator of needs and resources; Builder of capability/capacity in partners and networks; and Connector of communities.

About the Community Development Councils (CDCs)

Since 1997, the CDCs have been bridging communities by strengthening social infrastructure, building social resilience and social capital, and promoting a culture of giving back, through the following ways:

- (a) Aggregator of Needs and Resources
- (b) Builder of Capability / Capacity in Partners and Networks
- (c) Connector of Communities

There are five Community Development Councils (CDCs), namely, Central Singapore, North East, North West, South East and South West CDCs. Mayors of the Districts are Chairman of the respective CDCs. The Office of the Mayors comprises:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| a) Ms Low Yen Ling | Chairman of Mayors' Committee & Mayor of South West District |
| b) Ms Denise Phua Lay Peng | Mayor of Central Singapore District |
| c) Mr Desmond Choo | Mayor of North East District |
| d) Mr Alex Yam | Mayor of North West District |
| e) Mr Mohd Fahmi Aliman | Mayor of South East District |

ZOOM GROUP PHOTOS FOR THE VIRTUAL MEDIA LAUNCH OF THE 'TEMASEK TRUST - CDC LIFELONG LEARNING ENABLING FUND'

Photo 1



Credit: Central Singapore Community Development Council

Photo Caption:

Top Row (L-R):

Ms Low Yen Ling, Chairman of Mayors' Committee and Mayor of South West District; Mr Richard Magnus, Member of the Grant Committee, Temasek Trust's oscar@sg fund, and Deputy Chairman, Temasek Foundation; Ms Denise Phua Lay Peng, Mayor of Central Singapore District; and Ms Ku Geok Boon, Chief Executive Officer, SG Enable

Bottom Row (L-R):

Mr Alex Yam, Mayor of North West District; Mr Desmond Choo, Mayor of North East District; Mr Mohd Fahmi Aliman, Mayor of South East District; and Mr Alister Ong

Demonstrating the Singapore Sign Language (SgSL) hand sign for "I Love You" at the Virtual Media Launch of the 'Temasek Trust-CDC Lifelong Learning Enabling Fund'.

Photo Download Link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1cYasrpTXsaKfAWY0uB73iL3ozl4gkarh?usp=sharing>

Photo 2

Virtual Media Announcement for

\$4 Million

Temasek Trust - CDC Lifelong Learning Enabling Fund

Wednesday, 8 September 2021



Brought to you by:



Credit: Central Singapore Community Development Council

Photo Caption:

Ms Low Yen Ling, Chairman of Mayors' Committee and Mayor of South West District; Mr Richard Magnus, Member of the Grant Committee, Temasek Trust's oscar@sg fund, and Deputy Chairman, Temasek Foundation; Ms Denise Phua Lay Peng, Mayor of Central Singapore District; and Ms Ku Geok Boon, Chief Executive Officer, SG Enable; Mr Alex Yam, Mayor of North West District; Mr Desmond Choo, Mayor of North East District; Mr Mohd Fahmi Aliman, Mayor of South East District; Mr Alister Ong and participants, comprising persons with disabilities and caregivers, representatives from the Temasek Trust oscar@sg fund, SG Enable, Ministry of Social and Family Development, Social Service Agencies, People's Association, Institutes of Higher Learning, demonstrating the Singapore Sign Language (SgSL) hand sign for "I Love You" at the Virtual Media Launch of the 'Temasek Trust-CDC Lifelong Learning Enabling Fund'.

Photo Download Link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1cYasrpTXsaKfAWY0uB73iL3ozl4gkarh?usp=sharing>

SOUNDBITES FROM THE
'TEMASEK TRUST - CDC LIFELONG LEARNING ENABLING FUND'
VIRTUAL MEDIA LAUNCH

Speakers	Download Link
<p>Ms Denise Phua Mayor of Central Singapore District</p>	<p><u>English Speech:</u> https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1gshjHn7MFBQb5sdaDaZKqZBhNuL-3yDV?usp=sharing</p> <p><u>Mandarin Soundbite:</u> https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1YvnhqgA51Aq8bhdxE1mCZfGANE3FzBNR?usp=sharing</p>
<p>Mr Richard Magnus Member of the Grant Committee, Temasek Trust's oscar@sg fund Deputy Chairman, Temasek Foundation</p>	<p>https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SDSrl1OPbSlstleeKd03RNFbKdpHnNVL?usp=sharing</p>
<p>Launch of the S\$4 Million 'Temasek Trust - CDC Lifelong Learning Enabling Fund'</p>	<p>https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Fi7IMAiHiRZ16U1WgFpqfYjLJJ2RXqT1?usp=sharing</p>

CHINESE TRANSLATION OF THE PRESS RELEASE
FOR THE VIRTUAL MEDIA LAUNCH OF
'TEMASEK-CDC LIFELONG LEARNING ENABLING FUND'

400万元基金
助残疾成人终身学习

我国五个社区发展理事会，连同淡马锡信托基金会，推出“淡马锡信托基金会 - 社区发展理事会终身学习辅助金”，通过津贴培训和辅助学习的服务，支持4000名残疾成人终身学习。

辅助金由五个社理会和淡马锡信托成立，并将由新加坡协助残障者自立局负责管理。每一名符合条件的残疾成人，将能申请高达1000元的津贴，用来支付上课培训，或是辅助学习的器材及服务的开销。配合国际残疾人日，辅助金将在今年12月初开放申请。

冠病19疫情期间，居家学习和办公及大量科技的使用，已经成了新常态。新辅助金在这个时候推出，旨在确保身有残疾的人士，能获得相关职能和独立生活技能，面对疫情，越战越勇。

中区市长潘丽萍说，这项计划的目的是不仅是帮助缓和冠病所带来的冲击，也希望能推动更多残疾人士迈向终身学习。“许多残疾成年人没有什么学习机会，或是在完成学业后就停止学习。我们五个社理会希望这个辅助金能鼓励他们继续学习和受训，与时俱进，不会被抛在后头。我们也希望能鼓励提供培训的业者，为残疾人士推出更多具包容性和方便他们的培训课程。我们感谢淡马锡信托的实际行动，帮助满足这一族群的需要。我们也鼓励更多有心人士提供赞助，与我们一起支持残疾社群。”

淡马锡信托基金会首席执行官蒋福娟说：“**疫情对残疾人士的影响尤其大，淡马锡信托的oscar@sg 基金，很高兴能参与这项计划，提供残疾成人提升自己的机会。随着我们的经济逐步重新开放，我们必须作为一个具包容性的社会，大家同步前进。**”

新协立局长邱玉雯说：“**我们很感激淡马锡信托，及五个社理会对残疾人士的大力支持。我们相信这笔辅助金，能支持残疾人士在职能和就业培训方面获得全面的发展，尤其在疫情期间，为他们提供更有意义的交流和技能发展机会。**”

关于辅助金的更多详情，将在今年12月开放申请时，由社理会、新协立和淡马锡信托公布。

FACTSHEET

(Correct as at 8 September 2021)

About the Fund

Name of Fund	Temasek Trust - CDC Lifelong Learning Enabling Fund
Objective of Fund	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Temasek Trust has partnered the five Community Development Councils (CDCs) to set up a Community Fund titled, 'Temasek Trust – CDC Lifelong Learning Enabling Fund'. 2) This is a S\$4 million Community Fund that will support about 4,000 adults with disabilities to pursue Continuing Education & Training to foster lifelong learning in their post-school years.
Grant Administrator	SG Enable
What the Fund Supports	<p>As detailed, but not limited to:</p> <p><u>Courses & Related Costs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing Education and Training (CET) programmes offered for instance by Institutes of Higher Learning • Courses offered by Social Service Agencies and training providers that are supported by SG Enable • Costs such as registration fees, course fees, course materials, assessment fees <p><u>Learning Support Devices and Services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistive technology that helps with learning, for e.g. transcribing / magnifying / recording devices, etc • IT infrastructure / software to support e-learning like broadband access, laptops / tablets, screen reader software, etc • Accessibility services, for e.g. as sign interpreter, note taker, etc
Who Can Benefit?	Persons with disabilities in Singapore, aged 18 years and above, who are not currently enrolled in mainstream or SPED studies
Targeted Outreach	About 4,000 adults with disabilities
Application Period	<p>3 December 2021 to 31 December 2022</p> <p>(To coincide with the International Day of Persons with Disabilities)</p>

Organisation	Representatives at Virtual Media Launch
Temasek Trust	<p>Mr Richard Magnus Member of the Grant Committee, Temasek Trust's oscar@sg fund & Deputy Chairman, Temasek Foundation</p>
Community Development Councils	<p>Ms Low Yen Ling Chairman of Mayors' Committee, & Mayor of South West District</p> <p>Ms Denise Phua Mayor of Central Singapore District</p> <p>Mr Desmond Choo Mayor of North East District</p> <p>Mr Alex Yam Mayor of North West District</p> <p>Mr Mohd Fahmi Aliman Mayor of South East District</p>
SG Enable	<p>Ms Ku Geok Boon Chief Executive Officer, SG Enable</p>

Frequently-Asked-Questions

(Correct as at 8 September 2021)

1. What is Temasek Trust's oscar@sg fund about?

Temasek Trust's oscar@sg fund supports ground-up initiatives responding to community needs in Singapore arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Can an adult learner with disability apply for this fund more than once?

There is no limit to the number of applications that a person with disability can make within the year. However, the total funded amount for each person with disability is capped at \$1,000, and funding for purchase of learning devices / support services is capped at \$500.

3. What are the courses supported? Are online courses also supported?

The fund supports any SkillsFuture courses, continual learning and education by the Institutes of Higher Learning (i.e. Institutes of Technical Education, Polytechnics, Universities, private IHLs (e.g. Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts)), selected training programmes offered by SSAs, and any courses stated on SG Enable's website. Learning in various modes, including online, are supported.

4. Can persons with disabilities apply for the fund to purchase a learning device?

Persons with disabilities can apply for the grant (up to \$500) to purchase a learning device that is required for a course that they are attending. The learning device cannot be purchased on its own.

5. Can an adult learner with disability leverage on this fund on top of his/her SkillsFuture credits?

Yes, this fund can be used with other existing government grants to defray out-of-pocket expenses relating to course fees and learning devices / support services.

6. Will there be Means Testing?

The grant will not be means-tested, which is in line with the spirit of promoting lifelong learning via the SkillsFuture credits.

7. How do we know if someone is considered disabled?

Applicant will need to have proof of a doctor's memo, or equivalent, indicating a permanent disability under Singapore's disability definition / Social Service Agency (SSA) Membership Card / Persons with Disabilities Concession Card.

8. Can this fund support stroke survivors and/or persons with brain injury?

Yes, if the injury results in certified permanent disabilities such as physical disabilities, sensory disabilities (e.g. visual impairment/hearing loss), and intellectual disabilities.

9. Why does the fund only support persons with disabilities who are 18 years old and above?

This fund aims to encourage persons with disabilities to continue learning in their post-school years. This fund will also support young adults with disabilities aged between 18 to 25 years old, who do not qualify for SkillsFuture credits yet.

10. Does an adult learner with disability have to submit their application through a Social Service Agency or with SG Enable?

Persons with disabilities can submit their application(s) directly with SG Enable. More details will be shared in due course.

11. What is the application date and process?

Applications will open in December 2021 in conjunction with celebrating International Day of Persons with disabilities. The grant will open for a year, and all applications must be made by 31 December 2022.

12. Where can I find out more details on the fund's application process?

More information pertaining to the fund's application process will be shared on SG Enable's and Community Development Councils' websites nearer to date.

MEDIA PROFILES

Name	Biography and Quote
<p>(Mr) Alister Ong</p> 	<p>Age: 28 Disability: Cerebral Palsy</p> <p>Alister is an advocate of lifelong learning and hopes to become a facilitator in that aspect. He encourages adult persons with disabilities to continue honing their skills to stay relevant and increase their employability.</p> <p>He hopes to leverage on technology to enable companies to enhance their workforce by employing persons with disabilities.</p>
<p>(Ms) Siti Sakinah</p> 	<p>Age: 25 Disability: Visual Impairment</p> <p>Sakinah is a Member of The Purple Symphony and Award Recipient of The Purple Symphony: Training Award Programme.</p> <p><i>“This fund will be very useful for persons with disabilities like myself as assistive technology can be fairly expensive. With this fund, it will help to support my continued learning and training needs, as I upskill myself to maximise what I can do in my daily life.”</i></p>
<p>(Ms) Jaspreet Sekhon</p> 	<p>Age: 41 Disability: Down Syndrome</p> <p>Jaspreet is a dancer with Diverse Abilities Dance Collective (DADC) and is also a co-trainer for pre-schoolers, teaching them dance and movement.</p> <p>She fills her days doing advocacy work, speaking up on the importance of education to overcome barriers and limitations in the community.</p> <p><i>“I would like to tap on this fund to upskill myself to be a motivational speaker, sharing about how with assistance, I have overcome some of my challenges, and at the same time advocating for persons with disabilities.”</i></p>

(Ms) Isabelle & Jacqueline Lim



Age: 27
Disability: Nager Syndrome (Isabelle)

Isabelle is a full-time photographer. Despite being born deaf, she sees her deafness as a strength which helps her focus her sense of seeing. To date, she has held close to 20 photo exhibitions.

“It is awesome to hear that there is such a fund that aims to encourage, support and provide an avenue for persons with disabilities to tap on for continued learning and skills upgrading. Personally, I hope to use this grant to learn and expend my photography skills further!”

(Ms) Alyssa Josephine Prince



Age: 33
Disability: Autism Spectrum Disorder

Alyssa is a barista with Starbucks. She started training under Autism Resource Centre (Employability & Employment Centre) in March 2017 and was employed by Starbucks in April 2017. She is a diligent worker who has recently achieved the title of a Coffee Master and enjoys practising latte art.

She has always loved musical theatre – performing and watching musicals at the theatres. She takes classes at Sing’Theatre Academy and does flamenco and belly dancing.

“I am excited and grateful to be taking these courses. As someone with special abilities, I didn’t learn at the same pace as others and I’m just finding out now that I really want to learn and grow. So having this grant to help me develop in my areas of interest is wonderful. I would really like to learn another language, pursue more dance and musical theatre courses. I love singing and dancing is a way to keep fit.”

(Mr) Kelvin Koh

**Chief Executive Officer,
Movement for the Intellectually
Disabled (MINDS)**

“At MINDS, we strongly advocate lifelong learning for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (PWIDs) throughout their life stage. Evidence has shown that lifelong learning is pertinent to PWIDs’ Quality of Life in adulthood, hence MINDS believes more opportunities and support should be provided for PWIDs to learn and acquire skills, aligned to their individual aspirations and needs, which will ultimately help to enhance their Quality of Life. The new Temasek Trust-CDC Lifelong Learning Enabling Fund will offer added opportunities for MINDS and other social service agencies to work in partnership with SGEEnable and training agencies to develop more of such courses in support of PWDs, including those with intellectual disabilities. We look forward to this collaboration so that more PWDs are empowered to access such courses throughout their adult years and help them better integrate into society and lead more meaningful lives.”