

Budget 2026: Not Mere Spectators but Active Participants in Securing Our Future in a Changed World

On 12 February 2026, Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Mr Lawrence Wong presented Singapore's Budget 2026 in Parliament ("**Budget 2026**"). Budget 2026 outlines strategies for managing global changes and AI disruption, responding to geopolitical tensions, economic uncertainty, and shifting multilateral norms while building on Singapore's strengths.

As the first Budget of the new government term after SG60, it introduces targeted tax measures aligned with a refreshed economic strategy, reinforces stronger global partnerships, and places emphasis on leadership in high-value industries. It also features increased investments in research, innovation, and enterprise financing.

For Financial Year 2025, Singapore expects a surplus of S\$15.1 billion (1.9% of GDP), with Budget 2026 targeting a smaller surplus of S\$8.5 billion (1% of GDP).

This alert covers selected fiscal measures from Budget 2026 affecting businesses and individuals.

A. Corporate and International Tax

Granting of 40% Corporate Income Tax (" CIT ") Rebate for Year of Assessment (" YA ") 2026, capped at S\$30,000	<p>A CIT rebate of 40% of tax payable will be granted for YA 2026.</p> <p>Active companies that have employed at least one local employee in calendar year 2025 will receive a minimum benefit of S\$1,500 in the form of a cash payout, known as the "CIT Rebate Cash Grant".</p> <p>The maximum amount that a company can receive from both the CIT Rebate and CIT Rebate Cash Grant is capped at S\$30,000.</p>
Implementation of the Domestic Top-up Tax (" DTT ")	<p>Budget 2026 confirms that Singapore will proceed with the implementation of the DTT under the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development ("OECD") Base Erosion and Profit Shifting ("BEPS") Pillar Two framework. This measure ensures that large multinational enterprises ("MNEs") are subject to an effective tax rate of at least 15%. Higher corporate tax collections are expected from the 2027 financial year onwards.</p> <p>In tandem, Singapore's spending will also grow to strengthen its attractiveness as a target for foreign direct investment, in light of other countries' focus on introducing generous incentives to re-shore and on-shore major investments. For this reason, Singapore has increased the Ministry of Trade and Industry ("MTI") expenditure to develop a more robust investment promotion toolkit.</p>

Comments:

The continuation of the CIT Rebate and the CIT Rebate Cash Grant are clear signals that the Government is cognisant of rising business costs and is committed to supporting businesses with these rising costs.

Additionally, the Budget announcement reinforces Singapore's Qualified Domestic Minimum Top-up Tax as the primary mechanism in the Global Minimum Tax.

We did expect further clarity on Singapore's position regarding the recently published OECD BEPS administrative guidance, including the Side-By-Side regime, as well as the introduction of expanded Qualified Refundable Tax credits, although Budget 2026 did not provide either. We look forward to future guidance on these aspects.

B. Advancing Singapore's Refreshed Economic Strategy

(i) *Connecting differently in a changed world: new trade frameworks and strategic partnerships*

Against a backdrop of increasingly selective global economic flows, the Government signalled a shift towards resilience-driven trade integration and regional embedding. The strategy reflects two parallel objectives: (i) developing new-generation trade rules; and (ii) expanding Singapore's effective economic hinterland.

Developing New-Generation Trade Frameworks	<p>Singapore continues to pioneer modular, issue-specific trade arrangements that extend beyond traditional tariff liberalisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU-Singapore Digital Trade Agreement: Entering into force this month, the agreement establishes high-standard digital trade rules, including commitments facilitating cross-border data flows and digital cooperation. For technology-enabled and platform-based businesses, this reduces regulatory fragmentation risk in digital operations. - Agreement on Trade in Essential Supplies (New Zealand): This agreement focuses on continuity of critical supply chains during crises, reflecting a structural shift from pure market access to trade resilience architecture. - Future of Investment and Trade Partnership ("FITP"): Launched last year, FITP brings together like-minded partners to cooperate in high-value areas such as technology, supply chain security and trade facilitation, signalling a coalition-based model of economic integration. <p>Collectively, these frameworks suggest a move towards targeted, standards-driven trade integration rather than reliance solely on broad multilateral arrangements.</p>
Deepening Regional Integration – "Greater Hinterland" Strategy	<p>To address domestic land and labour constraints, the Government is deepening integration with neighbouring jurisdictions to provide a broader operating base for investors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone ("JS-SEZ"): The JS-SEZ is

	<p>intended to facilitate movement of goods and people across the border, enabling businesses to combine Singapore's financing, headquarters and services capabilities with Johor's land and industrial capacity. For groups structuring regional manufacturing and distribution models, this may create renewed opportunities for cross-border value chain alignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indonesia Free Trade Zones: Enhanced cooperation in the Batam, Bintan and Karimun FTZs is aimed at deepening supply chain and manufacturing linkages, further supporting twinned Singapore-Indonesia operations. <p>The broader implication is a deliberate deepening of regional economic integration as part of Singapore's competitiveness strategy.</p>
Diversification into High-Growth Markets	The Government will expand diplomatic and trade presence in Latin America, Africa and the Middle East in response to moderating growth in developed markets.

Enhancements to Internationalisation and Adaptation Schemes

To operationalise this strategy, the Government announced enhancements to several enterprise support schemes.

Enhancement and extension of the Market Readiness Assistance ("MRA") Grant	<p>Key enhancements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removal of "New Market" Restriction (from 2H 2026): Enterprises will no longer be required to be new to a target overseas market. This shifts the scheme from supporting first-time entry to supporting sustained market development. - Increased Support Levels (1 April 2026 – 31 March 2029): Support levels for local SMEs will increase to 70% of eligible costs (from 50%). - Extension of Grant Cap: The enhanced cap of S\$100,000 per company per market will be extended. <p>Further implementation details are expected from Enterprise Singapore in 2H 2026.</p>
Enhancement of the Business Adaptation ("BizAdapt") Grant	<p>Effective 1 April 2026, the BizAdapt scheme will provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Higher Co-Funding: 70% for local SMEs and 50% for local non-SMEs. - Support for Strategic Advisory and Supply Chain Reconfiguration: Including alternative sourcing and operational restructuring in response to tariffs. <p>For enterprises affected by tariff escalations or supply chain disruption, this creates scope to obtain co-funding support for trade structuring, free trade</p>

	<p>agreement optimisation, origin planning, customs valuation review, and broader trade compliance advisory work.</p> <p>We regularly assist clients with FTA utilisation, rules of origin analysis, customs valuation structuring, and tariff mitigation strategies. Where such advisory falls within the BizAdapt framework, eligible enterprises may be able to leverage grant support to defray a substantial portion of advisory costs.</p> <p>There is currently an inconsistency in official materials: while enhanced co-funding is stated to run until 31 March 2029, the scheme is presently scheduled to lapse on 6 October 2027. We anticipate a formal extension or further guidance from Enterprise Singapore by 2Q 2026 to resolve this inconsistency.</p>
Enhancement of the Double Tax Deduction for Internationalisation ("DTDi") scheme	<p>From YA 2027, administrative requirements under DTDi will be streamlined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Higher Automatic Claim Cap: The no-approval expenditure cap will increase from S\$150,000 to S\$400,000 per YA. - Expanded Automatic Scope: All eligible expenses for overseas market development and investment study trips will fall within the no-approval regime, alongside qualifying feasibility, due diligence, licensing and market survey activities. <p>Businesses may continue to seek prior approval for expenditure exceeding the S\$400,000 cap or for specified activities such as e-commerce campaigns.</p>

(ii) Advancing leadership in key growth areas

Investment under the Research, Innovation, and Enterprise 2030 Plan ("RIE2030 Plan")	<p>Singapore's economic strategy increasingly centres on anchoring high-knowledge and technology-intensive segments of global value chains. Under the RIE2030 Plan, the Government will invest S\$37 billion over the next phase, which is equivalent to approximately 1% of GDP annually.</p> <p>The emphasis is not merely on attracting business activity, but on deepening domestic capabilities in frontier and commercially scalable technologies. The budget identifies the following priority clusters and emerging areas for sustained and disciplined investment: semiconductors (advanced packaging), quantum technology, aerospace, biomedical sciences, and decarbonisation solutions.</p>
--	---

(iii) Strengthening our economic ecosystem

Catalysation of growth-stage capital	<p>S\$1 billion will be invested to enhance the Startup SG Equity scheme and expand its scope to cover growth-stage companies.</p>
--------------------------------------	--

	A new workgroup will be convened to develop strategies to position Singapore as a leading centre for growth capital.
Launch of the second tranche of the Anchor Fund	To further attract and anchor high-quality public listings, a second S\$1.5 billion tranche of the Anchor Fund will be launched. This will be a co-investment between the Government and Temasek.
Enhancement of the Equity Market Development Programme	To develop the fund management industry and increase investor participation in Singapore equities, the Equity Market Development Programme will be expanded through a S\$1.5 billion top-up to the Financial Sector Development Fund.
Implementation of recommendations of the Equities Market Review Group	Listing rules and requirements shall be streamlined to make it easier for high-growth companies to go public. A dual listing bridge will be established connecting the SGX and Nasdaq, providing more pathways for companies to grow and thrive in Singapore.
Shift in focus to high-growth companies in their early stage	Efforts will be made by the Economic Development Board (" EDB ") to attract high-growth companies with the potential to become future industry leaders, in addition to its traditional approach of promoting MNEs.

Comments:

These measures signal the Government's commitment to strengthening Singapore's enterprise ecosystem. Previously, governmental support was more focused on the startup stage and on large MNEs. With the enhanced initiatives, companies in the middle growth stages will have the opportunity to access both public and private capital, along with receiving structured support throughout their process of scaling.

C. Harnessing AI as a Strategic Advantage

Introduction of AI Missions	<p>The Government will launch a set of national AI Missions and work closely with industry to identify clear and ambitious problem statements in key sectors.</p> <p>The 4 key sectors identified in Budget 2026 are: (i) advanced manufacturing; (ii) connectivity; (iii) finance; and (iv) healthcare.</p> <p>MTI will share more details on the AI Mission for advanced manufacturing at the Committee of Supply 2026. Details on the other sectors will be announced in due course.</p>
Establishment of the National AI Council	<p>The Government will set up an inter-ministerial committee – the National AI Council – to provide strategic direction and drive the national AI agenda.</p> <p>The National AI Council will:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide strategic direction for our National AI Strategy and ambition, including overseeing the development and execution of AI Missions; - Commission AI Mission(s) in priority sectors with strong industry relevance and growth potential, that address complex, frontier problem statements; and - Unlock regulations and resources to accelerate the development, testing, deployment, and scaling of innovative and impactful AI solutions. <p>The Council will be chaired by the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Mr Lawrence Wong.</p>
Enhancement of the Enterprise Innovation Scheme (" EIS ") for AI-related activities	<p>Under the EIS, businesses can claim 400% tax deductions / allowances on qualifying expenditure incurred on the following five qualifying activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Qualifying research and development activities undertaken in Singapore; b) Registration of intellectual property ("IP"); c) Acquisition and licensing of IP rights; d) Training courses that are eligible for SkillsFuture Singapore funding and aligned with the Skills Framework; and e) Innovation projects carried out with polytechnics, the Institute of Technical Education, or other qualified partners (collectively known as partner institutions). <p>The qualifying expenditure cap under each of activities (a) to (d) is S\$400,000 for each YA. The qualifying expenditure cap under activity (e) is S\$50,000 for each YA. Businesses have the option to convert up to S\$100,000 of total qualifying expenditure into a 20% non-taxable cash payout, in lieu of tax deductions / allowances.</p> <p>To further support businesses in adopting AI, the EIS will be enhanced for YA 2027 and YA 2028:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The list of partner institutions in (e) will be expanded to include the Sectoral AI Centre of Excellence for Manufacturing. - An additional qualifying activity will be introduced for qualifying AI expenditures. Businesses can claim tax deductions / allowances of 400% on up to S\$50,000 of qualifying AI expenditures incurred for each YA. The option to convert qualifying expenditure into a cash payout will not be available for this new qualifying activity. <p>The Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore will provide more details by mid-2026.</p>
Expansion of the Productivity Solutions Grant (" PSG ")	<p>To support businesses in AI adoption, a wider range of AI-enabled solutions will be made available for businesses under the PSG.</p>

	<p>The PSG provides support for businesses to adopt pre-approved IT solutions and equipment, to improve their productivity and automate existing processes.</p> <p>The Ministry of Digital Development and Information ("MDDI") will share more details at the Committee of Supply 2026.</p>
Introduction of the Champions of AI programme	<p>The new Champions of AI programme will provide tailored support for firms with the ambition to use AI to comprehensively transform their businesses.</p> <p>MTI will share more details at the Committee of Supply 2026.</p>
Expansion of TechSkills Accelerator (" TeSA ")	<p>TeSA will be expanded to support AI skills training in non-tech, cross-sectoral occupations.</p> <p>Under the expanded TeSA, the Singapore Infocomm Media Development Authority is working with professional bodies in various sectors to develop frameworks to identify the key training needs and competencies needed to transform workflows with AI.</p> <p>IMDA will start with the accountancy and legal professions and progressively extend TeSA to other fields.</p> <p>MDDI will share more details at the Committee of Supply 2026.</p>
Provision of complimentary subscription to premium versions of AI tools	<p>To encourage learning-by-doing with AI, the Government will provide six months of free access to premium versions of AI tools to Singaporeans who take up selected AI training courses listed on the MySkillsFuture portal.</p> <p>The Ministry of Manpower ("MOM") will share more details at the Committee of Supply 2026.</p>
Setting up of AI Park	<p>JTC will establish an AI Park at One-North. This will provide dedicated spaces near research clusters for AI startups, researchers, and industry partners to foster new partnerships and ecosystem networks, and to catalyse AI innovation.</p> <p>MTI will share more details at the Committee of Supply 2026.</p>

Comments:

The Government has identified AI as a critical element of the nation's economic strategy – both an opportunity and a challenge that requires coordinated action. Budget 2026 outlines a comprehensive national strategy, from establishing an inter-ministerial body to introducing targeted tax incentives and workforce development programmes that accelerate and incentivise the adoption and development of AI.

For companies operating in the AI sector, these initiatives create a significant opportunity to utilise tax deductions related to R&D activities. For businesses in general, there are schemes that make it easier to adopt AI solutions in their operations and stay competitive in the fast-evolving market.

D. Long-Term Security and Sustainability

Strengthening defence and our cybersecurity capabilities	<p>There has been a marked increase in cyber-attacks by both state-sponsored and non-state actors. Singapore has experienced malicious cyber activity, including hostile information campaigns and deliberate attempts to undermine national security. Defence spending will therefore be maintained at around 3% of GDP, with flexibility to increase this if circumstances require.</p> <p>Singapore will continue to strengthen its cybersecurity posture by deepening capabilities and enhancing coordination across the Cyber Security Agency, the Home Team Science and Technology Agency, and the Digital and Intelligence Service of the Singapore Armed Forces.</p> <p>Partnerships with the private sector will also be expanded to improve preparedness against cyber threats and reinforce collective cyber defence.</p>
Carbon tax trajectory to be monitored	<p>Carbon tax remains a key pillar of Singapore's climate strategy. The carbon tax has been increased from S\$25 to S\$45 per tonne from 2026, with the previously announced trajectory targeting S\$50 to S\$80 per tonne by 2030.</p> <p>The Government has indicated that it will monitor international developments and review Singapore's carbon tax trajectory and Net Zero commitments as necessary, with a view to maintaining economic competitiveness while advancing its sustainability objectives.</p>
Extending measures to encourage the adoption of green energy	<p>For businesses, Energy Efficient Grant and support for green loans under the Enterprise Financing Scheme will be extended to help them to invest in energy-efficient and sustainable solutions.</p> <p>The aviation and maritime sectors will also enjoy sector-specific measures, such as support for the demand for 1% sustainable fuel use for flights departing Singapore this year in the aviation sector, and the development of a low-carbon ammonia bunkering solution for fuel use in the maritime sector.</p> <p>Lastly, Singapore will advance plans to import low-carbon electricity to reduce its carbon footprint and strengthen its energy resilience. In line with this, Singapore will continue to actively pursue possibilities to diversify its energy mix through hydrogen, geothermal, and/or civilian nuclear power.</p>
Solar deployment target increased to 3 gigawatt-peak by 2030	<p>Singapore has achieved its previous 2030 solar deployment target of 2 gigawatt-peak ahead of schedule. The target will therefore be raised to 3 gigawatt-peak by 2030, reflecting continued emphasis on expanding domestic renewable energy capacity.</p>
Commitment towards 100% cleaner energy vehicles by 2040	<p>Singapore has introduced various incentives to support the early adoption of electric vehicles and has expanded charging infrastructure nationwide. These measures align with its commitment to achieving 100% cleaner energy vehicles by 2040.</p>

Comments:

The sustained defence spending and enhanced cybersecurity coordination signal that businesses (especially those in data-intensive sectors) must treat cyber resilience, regulatory compliance and government priorities rather than ancillary risks.

Additionally, the rising carbon tax trajectory, expanded green financing support and the push for green incentives all signal that green energy transition is an economic priority. That said, the Government has indicated that it will review Singapore's carbon tax trajectory and net zero commitments in light of international and regional developments to ensure that local businesses are not unduly disadvantaged.

E. Ensuring the quality of foreign workers

Employment Pass ("EP") minimum qualifying salary for new applicants will be raised	<p>MOM regularly reviews the EP qualifying salary to ensure that EP holders are of a high calibre.</p> <p>The changes are summarised below (key changes <u>emphasised</u>)</p> <table><tr><th>Sector(s)</th><th>Current Minimum Qualifying Salary</th><th>Revised Minimum Qualifying Salary</th></tr><tr><td>All sectors except for Financial Services ("FS")</td><td>S\$5,600 (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to S\$10,700 at age 45 and above)</td><td><u>S\$6,000</u> (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to <u>S\$11,500</u> at age 45 and above)</td></tr><tr><td>FS sector</td><td>S\$6,200 (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to S\$11,800 at age 45 and above)</td><td><u>S\$6,600</u> (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to <u>S\$12,700</u> at age 45 and above)</td></tr></table> <p>These changes will apply to new EP applications from 1 January 2027, and renewal applications from 1 January 2028.</p>	Sector(s)	Current Minimum Qualifying Salary	Revised Minimum Qualifying Salary	All sectors except for Financial Services ("FS")	S\$5,600 (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to S\$10,700 at age 45 and above)	<u>S\$6,000</u> (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to <u>S\$11,500</u> at age 45 and above)	FS sector	S\$6,200 (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to S\$11,800 at age 45 and above)	<u>S\$6,600</u> (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to <u>S\$12,700</u> at age 45 and above)
Sector(s)	Current Minimum Qualifying Salary	Revised Minimum Qualifying Salary								
All sectors except for Financial Services ("FS")	S\$5,600 (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to S\$10,700 at age 45 and above)	<u>S\$6,000</u> (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to <u>S\$11,500</u> at age 45 and above)								
FS sector	S\$6,200 (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to S\$11,800 at age 45 and above)	<u>S\$6,600</u> (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to <u>S\$12,700</u> at age 45 and above)								
Singapore Work Pass ("S Pass") minimum qualifying salary for new applicants will be raised	<p>MOM regularly reviews the S Pass qualifying salary.</p> <p>The changes are summarised below (key changes <u>emphasised</u>)</p> <table><tr><th>Sector(s)</th><th>Current Minimum Qualifying Salary</th><th>Revised Minimum Qualifying Salary</th></tr><tr><td>All sectors except for FS</td><td>S\$3,300 (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to S\$4,800 at age 45 and above)</td><td><u>S\$3,600</u> (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to <u>S\$5,100</u> at age 45 and above)</td></tr></table>	Sector(s)	Current Minimum Qualifying Salary	Revised Minimum Qualifying Salary	All sectors except for FS	S\$3,300 (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to S\$4,800 at age 45 and above)	<u>S\$3,600</u> (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to <u>S\$5,100</u> at age 45 and above)			
Sector(s)	Current Minimum Qualifying Salary	Revised Minimum Qualifying Salary								
All sectors except for FS	S\$3,300 (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to S\$4,800 at age 45 and above)	<u>S\$3,600</u> (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to <u>S\$5,100</u> at age 45 and above)								

	FS sector	S\$3,800 (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to S\$5,650 at age 45 and above)	<u>S\$4,000</u> (increases progressively with age from age 23, up to <u>S\$5,650</u> at age 45 and above)
These changes will apply to new S Pass applications from <u>1 January 2027</u> , and renewal applications from <u>1 January 2028</u> .			

Comments:

The announced adjustments are consistent with the Government's long-standing policy objective of maintaining a high-quality foreign workforce that complements the high-quality local workforce of Singapore.

However, for businesses, there are obvious practical implications, such as immediate cost increases. There may be a need to reform certain roles to justify the higher salaries for EP and S Pass holders.

These changes all point towards fewer, but better-paid and higher-skilled foreign workers, which is consistent with Singapore's long-term policy objective of being a high-value economy rather than a labour-cost competitive one.

F. Other tax developments

Extended and Enhanced Incentives	<p>The Government has decided to extend and enhance the following schemes and tax incentives:</p> <p><u>Financial and Trading Sectors</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Withholding Tax Exemptions for the Financial Sector: Extended until <u>31 December 2031</u> to maintain the competitiveness of the financial sector. - Finance and Treasury Centre ("FTC") Incentive: Extended until <u>31 December 2031</u> to encourage companies to conduct treasury management activities in Singapore. Additionally, the FTC was enhanced to include interest-like borrowing costs subject to withholding tax for loans used for qualifying activities or services, with effect from <u>13 February 2026</u>. - Global Trader Programme ("GTP"): Extended until <u>31 December 2031</u> to strengthen Singapore's position as a global trading hub. Additionally, the GTP was enhanced to include Environmental Attribute Certificates from <u>13 February 2026</u>. <p><u>Philanthropy and Social</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 250% Tax Deduction for Qualifying Donations: Extended for another three years, covering donations made until <u>31 December 2029</u>. - Corporate Volunteer Scheme ("CVS"): Extended until <u>31 December</u>
----------------------------------	---

	<p><u>2029</u> to support corporate volunteering.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Not-for-Profit Organisation Tax Incentive ("NPOTI"): Extended until <u>31 December 2032</u> to ensure Singapore remains an attractive location for Not-for-profit organisations.																								
Lapsing incentives	<p>The Government has decided to allow the following schemes to lapse to ensure the tax system remains relevant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Investment Allowance for Emissions Reduction ("IA-ER") Scheme: This will lapse after <u>31 December 2026</u>. The Government noted that it will continue to support decarbonisation efforts through other existing schemes, such as the Resource Efficiency Grant for Emissions and the Refundable Investment Credits.- Double Tax Deduction for Rated Retail Bonds: The deduction for qualifying upfront costs attributable to rated retail bonds will lapse after <u>31 December 2026</u>. Other schemes, such as the Qualifying Debt Securities scheme, remain available.																								
Increase in excise taxes levied on tobacco products	<p>To discourage consumption of tobacco products, an excise tax of 20% will be levied across all tobacco products. The increase has taken effect as of <u>12 February 2026</u>.</p>																								
Reduction of the Preferential Additional Registration Fee ("PARF") rebate for vehicles	<p>To encourage the timely renewal of the vehicle population so that it is safer and less polluting, PARF rebates are provided to car and taxi owners. It is calculated as a percentage of the Additional Registration Fee ("ARF") paid and tiered based on the age of the vehicle at deregistration.</p> <p>Electric and hybrid vehicles are less pollutive, and as they become more commonplace, PARF is less relevant. PARF shall be reduced by 45%-pts across the board, and the PARF rebate cap shall be reduced from S\$60,000 to S\$30,000. The changes are set out below (key changes emphasised):</p> <table><tr><th>Age of Vehicle at Deregistration</th><th>Current PARF Rebate</th><th>New PARF Rebate</th></tr><tr><td>Age ≤ 5 years</td><td>75% of ARF</td><td>30% of ARF</td></tr><tr><td>5 years < Age ≤ 6 years</td><td>70% of ARF</td><td>25% of ARF</td></tr><tr><td>6 years < Age ≤ 7 years</td><td>65% of ARF</td><td>20% of ARF</td></tr><tr><td>7 years < Age ≤ 8 years</td><td>60% of ARF</td><td>15% of ARF</td></tr><tr><td>8 years < Age ≤ 9 years</td><td>55% of ARF</td><td>10% of ARF</td></tr><tr><td>9 years < Age ≤ 10 years</td><td>50% of ARF</td><td>5% of ARF</td></tr><tr><td>Age > 10 years</td><td>n.a.</td><td>n.a.</td></tr></table>	Age of Vehicle at Deregistration	Current PARF Rebate	New PARF Rebate	Age ≤ 5 years	75% of ARF	30% of ARF	5 years < Age ≤ 6 years	70% of ARF	25% of ARF	6 years < Age ≤ 7 years	65% of ARF	20% of ARF	7 years < Age ≤ 8 years	60% of ARF	15% of ARF	8 years < Age ≤ 9 years	55% of ARF	10% of ARF	9 years < Age ≤ 10 years	50% of ARF	5% of ARF	Age > 10 years	n.a.	n.a.
Age of Vehicle at Deregistration	Current PARF Rebate	New PARF Rebate																							
Age ≤ 5 years	75% of ARF	30% of ARF																							
5 years < Age ≤ 6 years	70% of ARF	25% of ARF																							
6 years < Age ≤ 7 years	65% of ARF	20% of ARF																							
7 years < Age ≤ 8 years	60% of ARF	15% of ARF																							
8 years < Age ≤ 9 years	55% of ARF	10% of ARF																							
9 years < Age ≤ 10 years	50% of ARF	5% of ARF																							
Age > 10 years	n.a.	n.a.																							

	This will apply to all cars registered with Certificates of Entitlement obtained from the next bidding exercise in <u>February 2026</u> .
--	---

Comments:

The foregoing extensions of tax schemes and incentives reflect the Government's commitment to competitiveness and growth of business by providing grants and tax deductions. Additionally, the Government has also allowed certain schemes and incentives to lapse to ensure that Singapore's tax system remains relevant.

The sharp increase in tobacco taxes is reflective of the Government's objective to reduce smoking prevalence rates in Singapore.

Lastly, as Singapore moves towards electric vehicles, which are less polluting than conventional petrol cars, the need to encourage early deregistration through the PARF rebate is reduced.

Concluding comments

Budget 2026, guided by the motto "Securing our future together in a changed world," sets out a pragmatic manifesto for Singapore to navigate global uncertainty and disruptive technology. It responds to shifting geopolitical dynamics and technological changes with a renewed economic strategy, stronger international ties, and support for high-value industries. It also prioritises research, innovation, enterprise financing, and workforce policies that promote inclusive growth.

In light of global tax reforms and rising competition, Singapore aims to maintain its appeal as a top investment hub by emphasising stability and good governance.

Beyond tax adjustments, Budget 2026 highlights AI as a strategic priority, introducing national AI Missions and extending incentives for AI-related spending. These measures, along with enhanced enterprise support and RIE2030 investments, drive digital transformation and innovation across Singapore's economy.

Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Mr Lawrence Wong has announced Budget 2026 with clarity of action and resolution. It is now up to Singaporeans to not be mere spectators but active participants in ensuring the Nation's continued success!

How we can help

We encourage businesses to assess the relevance and potential application of the Budget 2026 measures discussed in this alert. When considered alongside existing schemes, these initiatives provide a broad suite of tools to support strategic objectives, including international expansion, innovation and AI adoption, capital market access, workforce development, and long-term sustainability planning.

When adopting these schemes, businesses should also consider the wider implications of adopting these schemes for their overall tax and commercial strategy to maximise their benefits. This could include:

- leveraging any of the new-generation trade frameworks;
- utilising the enhanced MRA, BizAdapt or DTDi grants to internationalise your business;
- developing your AI capabilities through the enhanced EIS or PSG grants; and / or
- considering green incentives and sustainability measures for long-term business planning.

We have extensive experience advising businesses on integrated tax strategies that align with their broader commercial and investment objectives in Singapore and across the region. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you wish to discuss how Budget 2026 may affect your organisation.

For further inquiries regarding this alert, please contact:

Eugene Lim

Founding Principal

Eugene.Lim@TaxiseAsia.com

+65 8962 8202

Christine Schwarzl

Associate Principal

Christine.Schwarzl@TaxiseAsia.com

+65 6304 7972

Benedict Teow

Senior Associate

Benedict.Teow@TaxiseAsia.com

+65 8962 8094

Philip Duggan

Associate

Philip.Duggan@TaxiseAsia.com

+65 6304 7972

Margaret Zhang

Legal Trainee

Margaret.Zhang@TaxiseAsia.com

+65 6304 7972

About WTS Taxise

Taxise Asia LLC (WTS Taxise) is a Singapore-based boutique law firm specialising in international tax, transfer pricing, and international trade law. Established in 2019 by leading regional experts, it provides practical, audit conflict-free advice on complex cross-border tax, transfer pricing, and trade issues, leveraging a diverse team with experience from law firms, in-house roles, tribunals, academia, and international organisations. Taxise Asia LLC is a member firm of WTS Global, a leading international network of independent tax firms with a presence in more than 120 countries worldwide.

About WTS Global

With representation in over 100 countries, WTS Global has already grown to a leadership position as a global tax practice offering the full range of tax services and aspires to become the preeminent non-audit tax practice worldwide. WTS Global deliberately refrains from conducting annual audits in order to avoid any conflicts of interest and to be the long-term trusted advisor for its international clients. Clients of WTS Global include multinational companies, international mid-size companies as well as private clients and family offices.

The member firms of WTS Global are carefully selected through stringent quality reviews. They are strong local players in their home market who are united by the ambition of building a truly global practice that develops the tax leaders of the future and anticipates the new digital tax world.

WTS Global effectively combines senior tax expertise from different cultures and backgrounds and offers world-class skills in advisory, in-house, regulatory and digital, coupled with the ability to think like experienced businesspeople in a constantly changing world.

For more information please see: wts.com

Imprint

Taxise Asia LLC

61 Robinson Road · #17-01A

Singapore 068893

T +65 63047972

taxiseasia.com info@TaxiseAsia.com

[Disclaimer e.g.: The above information is intended to provide general guidance with respect to the subject matter. This general guidance should not be relied on as a basis for undertaking any transaction or business decision, but rather the advice of a qualified tax consultant should be obtained based on a taxpayer's individual circumstances. Although our articles are carefully reviewed, we accept no responsibility in the event of any inaccuracy or omission. For further information please refer to the author.]