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FACTSHEET: NEU PC PLUS

IDA’s effort in equipping needy households with computer ownership started in 1999. As of January 2013, the NEU PC programme has benefited more than 34,600 needy households whose gross monthly household income do not exceed \$2,700 or whose per capita monthly income do not exceed \$700.

To address today’s dynamic school curriculum, IDA enhanced the programme for a third time in 2011, to keep the scheme relevant and also to benefit more low-income households with school-going children, as well as people with permanent disabilities. The enhanced NEU PC Plus Programme raised the income cap from \$2,500 to \$2,700 for gross monthly household income and per capita income from \$625 to \$700 to assist more low income families.

IDA also introduced a new funding scheme under the programme which provides grants to schools. The model provides flexibility and autonomy to schools to allow them to deploy suitable/specialised infocomm devices, software and broadband services to students from low-income households in order that the students’ learning needs are met according to the schools’ IT requirements. This scheme was effective from 1 September 2011.

The three schemes under the NEU PC Plus Programme are:

1. **PC-Bundle Scheme** - This scheme is applicable to students whose gross monthly household income does not exceed \$2,700 or per capita income does not exceed \$700. The scheme offers new computer (desktop or laptop) bundled with 3-year of free broadband access and software at an affordable price through a two-tier subsidy. As of January 2013, the PC-Bundle Scheme has benefitted 14,318 people. The following table summarises details of this funding scheme:

Income	Total Monthly Household Income \leq \$2,700 or Per Capital Monthly Income (PCI) \leq \$700 (\$875 if there is a disabled member)	
	PCI \leq \$500	PCI $>$ \$500
Citizenship		
Singapore Citizen	Up to 75%	Up to 50%
Permanent Resident	Up to 50%	Up to 50%

2. **iNSPIRE Fund Scheme** – This scheme, introduced in Nov 2007 to complement the PC-Bundle and Broadband-Only Schemes, helps PC-Bundle Scheme applicants who cannot afford the co-payment amount to earn their PC by doing some form of community service. As of January 2013, the iNSPIRE fund has benefitted 725 applicants.

The following table summarises details of the iNSPIRE Fund Scheme:

Criteria	Requirements
Total monthly household income, or Per capita monthly income	≤ \$1,800 ≤ \$500
No of hours of community service	a. aged below 15 years old to render 6 or 12 hours of community service for desktop or laptop respectively b. aged 15 years old and above to render 12 or 24 hours of community service for desktop or laptop respectively

3. **Broadband-Only Scheme** – This is a supplementary scheme which provides subsidised 3-year broadband service (at speed of 1 Mbps) to students who already own a PC but cannot afford to pay for Internet services. Applicants only need to co-pay \$1.50 per month or \$54 for three years to enjoy the subsidised broadband package. This scheme is applicable to Singaporean students whose household income and per capita income do not exceed \$1800 and \$500 respectively. As of January 2013, the Broadband-Only Scheme has benefitted 343 people.

Support from the Community and Industry

Lead Agencies (LAs) are appointed by IDA to support the programme in application processing. The LAs are the Association of Muslim Professionals, Central Sikh Gurdwara Board, Chinese Development Assistance Council, Institute of Technical Education, Singapore Indian Development Association, Society for the Physically Disabled, South East Community Development Council,



South West Community Development Council, The Eurasian Association and Yayasan MENDAKI.

The NEU PC Plus is one of the key programmes under the iN2015 Masterplan's digital inclusion initiative that aims to develop an all inclusive digital society.

For more information, please visit www.ida.gov.sg.

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