For further information call the Toll Free Hotlines 800-1MSD, 800-OPIC or Ministry lines 623-2608 Extensions 1120 to 1132

To access social support, you or a member of your family must be retrenched/-terminated or experience reduced income with effect from March 1st, 2020 and where the reduced gross income (minus statutory deductions) of the family, does not exceed $TT10,000.00.

A family may comprise one or more persons.

A one-person family is where the person is solely responsible for their own livelihood; or

A multi-person family is a group of two or more persons, inclusive of dependents, living together who make common provision for food or other essentials for their livelihood.

To access the benefits, please follow these instructions:

1. Have your Employer complete an Assessment/Declaration Form, available online on the website of the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development and the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services and submit/email form online ONLY to the relevant email address on the application form, for assessment by the National Employment Services (NES) of the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development;

2. Submit a letter from your previous or current employer as proof of retrenchment/termination or reduced income accordingly.

3. In the case of self-employment, the application must be supported by two recommendations from a verifiable source (the list of recommenders is outlined in the application form).

4. Where there are employed members of the family, apart from the applicant, proof of actual earnings must be submitted such as a payslip and job letter.

Food Cards in the value of $510 will be provided for the next 3 months.

Cards collected should NOT be disposed as your Temporary COVID-19 Food Support Card will be topped up in value for the next two months during April, 2020

One Food Card will be issued per family/household

Each person who collects a card on behalf of a family will be expected to sign a declaration

For rental assistance, applicants are required to submit rental agreement, evidence of payment and a copy of the landlord’s ID Card (payment will be made to the Landlord).

If the official assessment by MOLSED deems the applicant eligible, that application will be referred to the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services for the processing of the relevant grants.

Rental Assistance will be provided to the value of $2,500.00 per month for a period of three (3) months initially, and up to six (6) months as required. If this support is required beyond the six months, the rental assistance grant will be reduced to $1,500.00 and then a further reduction of $1,000.00 for any additional months required. The total period of rental assistance must not exceed twelve (12) months.

For rental assistance, applicants are required to submit rental agreement, evidence of payment and a copy of the landlord’s ID Card (payment will be made to the Landlord).

If the official assessment by MOLSED deems the applicant eligible, that application will be referred to the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services for the processing of the relevant grants.

Rental Assistance will be provided to the value of $2,500.00 per month for a period of three (3) months initially, and up to six (6) months as required. If this support is required beyond the six months, the rental assistance grant will be reduced to $1,500.00 and then a further reduction of $1,000.00 for any additional months required. The total period of rental assistance must not exceed twelve (12) months.

Public Assistance Grants will be payable as follows:

- $150 where the Public Assistance Grant is paid to one (1) person;
- $300 for families receiving the grant for two persons;
- $450 for families receiving the grant for three persons;
- $500 for families receiving the grant for four or more persons.

Social Support Measures for Retrenched, Terminated and Individuals/Families with Reduced Income

Social Support Measures available for this group for the next three months:

1. Public Assistance Grant;
2. Rental Assistance Grant
3. Temporary Food Support Card

For more information, please contact the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services at 800-1MSD, 800-OPIC, or Ministry lines 623-2608 Extensions 1120 to 1132.