



# SHORT-TERM NUTRITION-SENSITIVE CASH TRANSFER PROGRAMME



## What is the programme?

In collaboration with the Government of Sri Lanka, in the coming months UNICEF will provide nutrition-sensitive cash transfers to mothers/caretakers of young children who are born between **1 May 2021 and 31 December 2022**. This program aims to ensure the continuity of the pregnancy voucher during the first 24 months of the child and that the right nutrition and care are provided during this critical period. The programme focuses on the identified most nutrition-vulnerable districts. The selected priority districts are **Puttalam, Anuradhapura, Monaragala, Kegalle, Kilinochchi, and Mullaitivu**. In addition, each mother or caretaker will receive an **additional information related to nutrition** and available health services.

## How much will you receive?

An eligible mother/caretaker will receive a **monthly cash transfer of Rs. 6,750.00 per eligible child for up to 4 months** during the program period. For example, in a district where the program will start in February 2023 and run until May 2023,

- If your child is already 5 months or older in February, you will receive payments in February, March, April and May
- If your child turns 5 months in March, you will receive payments in March, April and May only.

## Who can register?

All mothers/caretakers of young children who are born between **1 May 2021 and 31 December 2022**. The mother/caretaker should also be a resident of the selected districts listed above to be eligible.

## How will payments be done?

Cash/payments will usually be made through **bank transfers**. The first payment will be in the first quarter of 2023. The exact timing depends on your place or residence.

## Who will register you and how?

Registration of beneficiaries will be done by the divisional government, and it will be free of charge. Depending on where you live, you might be asked to come to register in a government office such as divisional secretariat or medical office of health. In some places, you may be visited at home, for example by a Public Health Midwife or a Development Officer who will clearly indicate that they register beneficiaries for a **UNICEF nutrition sensitive cash transfer programme**. **Please note that eligible mothers/caretakers need to be personally present to register**. Right after the registration is completed, you will be provided with a registration ID number by the enumerator. The beneficiaries are informed to keep the registration ID number until the program is completed. In case of any inquiry of your registration, beneficiaries can contact **toll-free number of 1318** and beneficiaries will be requested confirm the registration ID number.



## Required documents for registration?

- **Birth certificate (if available) of the eligible child/children.** In case a birth certificate is not available, you can also provide the birth chit/ mother card issued by the hospital.
- **National Identification Card (NIC if available)** of the mother/caretaker. If the NIC is not available, you can also bring the birth certificate of the mother/caretaker.
- In case your permanent resident is different from the addresses mentioned in the NIC or Birth Certificate, you are requested to bring a resident confirmation letter from the respective Grama Niladari Officer.
- A **mobile number** via which the mother/caretaker can be reached.

## Beneficiary Verification

To verify beneficiary information, **UNICEF has come into partnership with a private company name Multi Tech Solution.** Hence, they will be contacting you over the phone or visit you physically. The beneficiary's information verification is done for the purpose of eligibility confirmation and registered beneficiaries are requested to share their information.

## How to register your bank account?

Each mother/caretaker needs to **provide the details of an active bank account.** If the **mother or caretaker does not have a bank account yet, we encourage them to open one.** Alternatively, beneficiaries can indicate the **bank account of another person within the same household.** The following information is required:

- Bank name, bank branch, branch code, and account number
- Bank passbook
- If the provided bank account is not the own bank account of the mother/caretaker but the account of another household member, the NIC number of the member.

Note that all types of bank accounts are accepted **except Samurdhi and Rural bank** accounts.

## How to get more information or report complaints or grievances?

UNICEF has come into partnership with Sarvodaya to support mothers/caretakers to provide information on the program and address complaint or grievances. So, **if you have any questions or require assistance, please call or SMS the 1318.** This is a tollfree hotline, operating all five weekdays from 9 am to 4 pm. We confirmed that the confidentiality of the complaints/grievances will be assured.

Sarvodaya may also contact the beneficiaries to verify the payment delivery and also conduct nutritional activities.

**HOTLINE for Assistance or Complaints**

**1318**

(weekdays 9am to 4pm)