

**OVER 7,800 CHILDREN BENEFIT FROM S\$2.35 MILLION WORTH  
OF COMFORTDELGRO'S STUDY AWARDS**

18 April 2016 – In the past, children would have to quit school because their parents just could not afford it.

ComfortDelGro thus decided that the children of its staff and drivers should never have to forego education for financial reasons. It started giving study awards to children of staff and taxi drivers – not just to relief the financial burden on the parents, but also as an incentive to spur the young ones onto greater things.

In the last decade, over 7,800 primary, secondary and tertiary students whose parents are part of the ComfortDelGro Group of Companies in Singapore have received study awards to the tune of S\$2.35 million.

SBS Transit has set aside S\$144,000 in scholarships, which will be given out to the children of its staff that includes bus captains, in a separate ceremony in September this year. SBS Transit started giving scholarships to students from tertiary institutions since 1978. Last year, it increased the scholarship amount for the Polytechnic and University educational levels from S\$1,300 and S\$2,600 to S\$1,600 and S\$3,200 respectively.

Mr Chua Aik Ngwen's son, Dr Chua Song Lin, 29, a medical researcher at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) received the scholarships from SBS Transit from 2008 to 2010 for his undergraduate studies in Biomedical Science and Traditional Chinese Medicine at NTU. He later went on to pursue a PhD before becoming a medical researcher at his alma mater.

"I am very thankful to SBS Transit for providing my son with the scholarships. These had helped to offset his course materials and hostel fees and maximised his time as a student," said Aik Ngwen, a Route Master at Toa Payoh Bus Interchange.

His son echoed this sentiment. He said: "I am honoured to be a past recipient as receiving the scholarship had helped lighten my family's financial burden and allowed me to focus on my studies. The generosity of my father's company has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope that I can help other students achieve their goals in future just as SBS Transit had helped me".

The latest batch of recipients from ComfortDelGro Taxis received their awards last Saturday, 16 April 2016. A total of 1,531 primary and secondary school children – more than double the previous year's recipient list were given S\$221,750 worth of study achievement awards at a presentation ceremony at the Orchid Country Club. The amount is also nearly double the previous year's figure.

ComfortDelGro relief driver Cheong Yuk Chum, who joined ComfortDelGro nearly four years ago, was a very proud parent at the event. He was all smiles when he saw his only son, Huan Feng, 14, go up on stage to receive the study achievement award. Said the 47-year-old cabby: "This is the first time my son is getting the study achievement award from my company and I am very proud that his hard work is recognised. I will let my son decide if he wishes to buy books or stationery with the prize money."

His son, Huan Feng was all smiles too. He said: "I plan to save 50% of the money from the study award and donate 30% of it to charity. The remaining, I would like to treat my parents to something nice to thank them for their support and encouragement. I will get reference books with the remaining."

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**Background**

ComfortDelGro is one of the world's largest land transport companies with a total fleet size of close to 46,500 buses, taxis and rental vehicles. Headquartered in Singapore, the Group also has operations in China, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, Vietnam and Malaysia.