

Update on Busking Scheme Due to COVID-19

On [3 April 2020](#), the Multi-Ministry Taskforce announced an elevated set of safe distancing measures from 7 April to 4 May 2020 (inclusive), to pre-empt the trend of increasing local transmission of COVID-19. The aim is to significantly minimise movement and interaction among people in public and private spaces.

In view of the above:

1. All busking activities at designated and trial locations will be suspended till 4 May 2020 (inclusive).

This supersedes NAC's notice on the suspension of busking activities on 25 March 2020. Please do not engage in any busking activities until further notice. Buskers who are found in breach will have their busking cards revoked immediately.

2. Busking auditions scheduled for 20 and 21 April 2020 will be cancelled.

Applicants will be notified and given priority when auditions resume, no further action is required.

3. The validity of busking cards will be extended by 3 months.

To allay buskers' concerns on the expiry of busking cards, NAC will automatically extend the validity of busking cards according to the table below.

Busking Card expiring on	Revised Busking Card expiry
22 May 2020	22 August 2020
25 May 2020	25 August 2020
31 August 2020	30 November 2020
29 November 2020	28 February 2021
5 December 2020	5 March 2021
14 December 2020	14 March 2021
22 February 2021	22 May 2021
11 March 2021	11 June 2021
22 May 2021	22 August 2021
31 August 2021	30 November 2021
29 November 2021	28 February 2022
5 December 2021	5 March 2022
11 March 2022	11 June 2022

No action is required on the part of affected buskers. As and when busking activities resume, NAC and enforcement agencies will refer to the revised busking card expiry dates.

While NAC sees busking as primarily a platform for creative expression and a vibrant street life, we understand that some of you may need financial assistance during this period when busking is suspended. The Ministry Of Finance has announced a variety of grants and funds under the Unity, Resilience and Solidarity budgets (highlights attached in PDF 1 and 2). You may wish to consider applying for [COVID-19 Support Grant](#) (see attached PDF 3) which offers \$800 per month for 3 months, to eligible individuals who lost their jobs due to COVID-19; or the [Temporary Relief Fund online](#), which offers \$500 for lower- to middle-income individuals who face an income loss of at least 30% due to COVID-19. If you need help understanding the different assistance schemes, do reach out to the nearest Community Centres or Social Service Office (full list accessible [here](#)) for information.

For eligible arts freelancers, NAC has also introduced a [Capability Development Scheme for the Arts \(CDSA\)](#) offering one-time support for arts practitioners to take up relevant training programmes. This is to encourage freelancers to attend courses and masterclasses which can expose them to new skills.

References:

[PDF 1](#)

[PDF 2](#)

[PDF 3](#)

Updated as of 6 April 2020