

# INFOCUS



## New Measures to Stem Increase in Moneylending Activities Targeting Foreigners

In July 2019, the Ministry of Law announced a set of measures to stem the increase in moneylending activities targeting foreigners.

Here are the key changes that have taken effect:

### 1 Borrowing capped at \$500 for foreigners earning less than \$10,000 a year



The maximum amount that an FDW (who earns less than \$10,000 a year) can borrow in total from licensed moneylenders has now been reduced from \$1,500 to \$500. More details can be found [here](#).

### 2 FDWs can now apply for self-exclusion from borrowing from licensed moneylenders



Here's how you can explain the process to your FDW:

- Self-exclusion is voluntary. Once your FDW has signed up, she will not be able to borrow from licensed moneylenders for a minimum of two years.
- Applying for self-exclusion requires a Singpass ID. As a third party, you can help her apply for it using your Singpass ID at <https://mlcb.com.sg/Borrowers/ExclusionList.aspx>.
- Download the authorisation form for her to sign and declare that she understands the implications of self-exclusion.
- You can also help your FDW apply for self-exclusion through employment agencies or NGOs such as Centre for Domestic Employees (CDE).

### Do's and Don'ts of Managing Finances

#### ✓ Share tips on good financial habits with your FDW

Tap on these useful educational materials to help your FDW manage her finances:



[6-step Money Management Guide](#)



[FDW Money Management Video](#)

#### ✗ An FDW MUST NOT borrow from unlicensed moneylenders

Warn your FDW against loan offers from social media, phone calls or text messages, as these are from unlicensed moneylenders. If she is caught borrowing from unlicensed moneylenders, she will be barred from working in Singapore.

If your FDW is facing financial difficulties, encourage her to speak to you early. Alternatively, she can seek assistance from

CDE [www.cde.org.sg](http://www.cde.org.sg) 1800 2255 233

or any of the following voluntary welfare organisations which work with indebted work pass holders

Adullam Life Counselling	<a href="http://www.adullam.org.sg">www.adullam.org.sg</a>	6659 7844
Arise2Care Community Services	<a href="http://www.arise2care.sg">www.arise2care.sg</a>	6909 0628
Association of Muslim Professionals	<a href="http://www.amp.org.sg">www.amp.org.sg</a>	6416 3960
Blessed Grace Social Services	<a href="http://www.bgss.org.sg">www.bgss.org.sg</a>	8428 6377
One Hope Centre	<a href="http://www.onehopecentre.org">www.onehopecentre.org</a>	6547 1011