

Media Release  
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### **Send *hong baos* digitally with PayNow**

**11 January 2021** – With Lunar New Year just one month away, The Association of Banks in Singapore would like to encourage banking customers to consider PayNow as an e-Gifting complement to the traditional *hong bao*. For those who prefer giving out physical *hong baos*, online reservations of new and good-as-new notes will be available from 18 January 2021 at five banks: DBS Bank, OCBC Bank, UOB, Maybank and Standard Chartered Bank.

### **Send Lunar New Year *hong baos* through PayNow**

PayNow enables the tradition of giving *hong baos* to continue, digitally and safely. This complements existing safe management measures, as a wider variety of visitation arrangements, including virtual gatherings, may be practised this year.

Customers sending digital *hong baos* through PayNow may add Lunar New Year greetings for recipients to receive via their Whatsapp or SMS transaction notifications. Customers may also include specially-designed festive graphics to accompany these festive greetings (see details in the table below). Transfers can be completed simply and hassle-free with just the recipient's mobile phone number or NRIC/FIN. Customers may contact their bank for more information on how to send *hong baos* digitally with PayNow..

*PayNow e-Gifting feature availability\**

	Adding Lunar New Year message to recipient	Lunar New Year festive design
Citibank	✓	✓
DBS Bank	✓	✓
OCBC Bank	✓	✓
Standard Chartered Bank	✓	✓
UOB	✓	✓
Maybank	✓	-

\* Customers across all 9 participating PayNow banks can still make PayNow transfers as an electronic alternative.

### **Pre-order new notes to avoid queuing and overcrowding at bank branches**

In line with current safe management measures, customers of the three local banks, DBS, OCBC and UOB, who require new and good-as-new notes will need to pre-order and make an appointment for notes collection through the banks' online reservation system before visiting the branch. While customers aged 60 and above and persons with disabilities need not make a pre-order, they are encouraged to do so to reduce crowding and facilitate safe distancing at the branches.

Online pre-orders for new notes are also available at Maybank and Standard Chartered Bank. Customers of these banks are encouraged to pre-order the notes before collection. Details on how to pre-order and to make an appointment for notes collection can be found on each bank's website.

New notes may also be withdrawn without a prior booking at pop-up ATMs offered by DBS Bank.

*Online reservation for new notes\**

	Reservation website
DBS Bank	<a href="https://go.dbs.com/sg-cny2021">https://go.dbs.com/sg-cny2021</a> <a href="https://go.posb.com.sg/cny2021">https://go.posb.com.sg/cny2021</a>
OCBC Bank	<a href="https://ocbc.com/cnynewnotes">https://ocbc.com/cnynewnotes</a>
UOB	<a href="https://uob.com.sg/lny">https://uob.com.sg/lny</a>
Maybank	<a href="https://maybank.sg/fortune">https://maybank.sg/fortune</a>
Standard Chartered Bank	<a href="https://retail.sc.com/sg/nfs/login.htm">https://retail.sc.com/sg/nfs/login.htm</a>

**About The Association of Banks in Singapore:**

The Association of Banks in Singapore (ABS) plays an active role in promoting and representing the interests of the banking community in Singapore. In doing so, ABS works closely with the relevant government authorities towards the development of a sound financial system in Singapore. Since its establishment in 1973, ABS has promoted common understanding among its members and projected a unifying voice on banking issues. It has brought its members closer together through various guidelines and banking practices as well as the support of projects of mutual benefit to face the challenges of the financial and banking community in Singapore. Today, ABS has a membership of 154 local and foreign banks. More information on ABS is available on the website: [www.abs.org.sg](http://www.abs.org.sg).

For more details on PayNow, please visit: <https://www.abs.org.sg/paynow>

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