HOSTPLUS

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

1 July 2025

Make sure you have enough super

For many people, super contributions from their employer may not be enough for the lifestyle they would like in retirement. Consider making personal contributions to your super, as this may increase your balance when you are ready to retire. You don't have to make large contributions, just what you can. Because even a few extra dollars today could make a big difference to what you'll enjoy tomorrow.

Start early for bigger benefits.

Additional contributions could make a difference to your final super payout. Starting early could build your balance over time.

The benefits of getting in early

If you start adding $25 a week to your super	From age 20	From age 30	From age 40
Total amount added	$58,500	$45,500	$32,500
Extra benefit at age 65	$207,610	$117,416	$62,045

Earnings are calculated at a compound return rate of 5% p.a. with amounts being fully invested until age 65. These assumptions are for illustrative purposes only and don't account for fees and tax. Investment returns are not guaranteed. Returns can be higher or lower than set out in this example. This is not a prediction or estimate of actual retirement savings. ASIC MoneySmart Compound Interest Calculator, March 2024.

Three ways to add to your super.

Depending on your marginal tax rate, one way you could add to your super is to check if your employer allows you to make a contribution from your salary before it is taxed (salary sacrifice).

In some circumstances, it might be more appropriate to make after-tax personal contributions, known as ' non consessional' contributions. If your employer doesn't allow you to salary sacrifice you may make an after-tax personal contribution and claim a tax deduction. If you have reached the concessional contribution cap (see page 2 for details) in the relevant financial year, you may decide to make an after-tax personal contribution.

Comparing salary sacrifice and personal contributions.

Comparing salary sacrifice and personal contributions

	Salary sacrifice	Personal contributions
Who makes the contribution?	Your employer makes the contribution on your behalf from your salary before it is taxed.	You make the contribution from your after- tax salary.
How is the contribution made?	Your employer deducts the amount from your before-tax salary and contributes it into your super fund.	You can choose to make contributions by direct debit, BPAY®, cheque or arrange payroll deductions.
What's the benefit?	Salary sacrifice contributions are taxed at 15% upon deposit to your super account. Salary sacrifice also lowers your taxable income, so you might end up paying less tax. Note that salary sacrifice will also reduce your take-home pay.	If you're eligible, making a personal contribution could earn a co-contribution from the government. You may also be eligible to claim the contribution as a tax deduction (conditions apply).

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Making salary sacrifice contributions.

With salary sacrifice, you'll pay 15% tax on your contribution when it's deposited into your super because it comes from your before-tax salary. This is instead of you paying tax based on your marginal tax rate, which could be up to 45% plus Medicare levy.

Salary sacrifice lowers your taxable income, so you might end up paying less income tax. It may also reduce your take home pay, so you should consider the financial impact of salary sacrificing prior to entering into an arrangement with your employer.

Before tax contribution limits.

Before tax contributions are known as 'concessional contributions' and include:

- superannuation guarantee (compulsory super contributions from your employer),
- salary sacrifice contributions and
- personal deductible contributions made.

There are limits on how much you can contribute to super to benefit from concessional tax rates. This limit is called the concessional contribution cap which is $30,000 per financial year.

Although you may contribute over this amount to superannuation, you may incur a tax rate of 45% plus Medicare levy, plus an interest charge to recognise that this is collected later than normal income tax.

The concessional contribution cap for the 2025-2026 financial year is $30,000. If you don't reach your annual concessional contributions cap of $30,000, you can carry forward the unused portion for up to 5 years, provided your Total Super Balance[1] is less than $500,000 at the end of 30 June in the previous year.

Making after tax personal contributions.

With after tax personal contributions your contribution isn't taxed when it's deposited into your super. That's because it's already been taxed at your marginal tax rate.

Making an after tax personal contribution could also entitle you to a government co-contribution of up to $500, depending on eligibility conditions such as your age, income, Total Super Balance[1] and how much you contribute.

How government co-contribution works.

Your maximum super co-contribution depends on your income and your Total Super Balance[1]. For the 2025-2026 financial year, for every dollar of personal or after-tax contributions you make, the government will add up to 50 cents to your super. If your income is equal to or less than the lower income threshold ($47,488) you could receive a co-contribution of up to the $500 if eligible.

For every dollar that you earn above the lower income threshold, your maximum entitlement is reduced by 3.333 cents. You are not eligible for a super co-contribution if your income is at or above the higher income threshold of $62,488.

You must have a Total Super Balance[1] of less than the general transfer balance cap of $2 million for the 2025-2026 financial year.

Visit hostplus.com.au/govco-contribution for more information on how you could benefit from co-contributions.

After tax contribution limits.

Non-concessional contributions are after tax contributions such as personal contributions.

You may make personal (after tax) contributions up to an annual limit capped at $120,000.

To be eligible for the non-concessional contributions cap you must have a Total Super Balance[1] of less than $2 million as at 30 June of the previous financial year.

If you are under the age of 75, you may be able to access a bring forward period for your non-concessional contributions cap of up to three times the annual cap in a single year, depending on your Total Super Balance[1] as outlined below:

Your Total Super Balance[1]: You may bring forward contributions to a maximum of:

- Less than $1.76 million. $360,000
- Above $1.76 million but less than $1.88 million $240,000
- Above $1.88 million but less than $2 million. $120,000
- Above $2 million you cannot make non-concessional contributions.

If your non-concessional contributions exceed your non-concessional contributions cap for that year, or if at 30 June of the previous year, your Total Super Balance[1] equals or exceeds the general transfer balance cap of $2 million, you will not be able to make additional contributions to your super.

1. Your Total Super Balance is the total value of your accumulation and retirement phase interests (including rollover amounts not yet included in those interests) across all of your superannuation accounts, reduced by the sum of any structured settlement contributions.

Claiming a tax deduction for personal contributions.

If you are between 18 and 75 years, self-employed, or your employer does not offer salary sacrifice arrangements or you simply choose to organise your own contributions to super, you can still contribute extra to super and enjoy concessional tax benefits by making a personal contribution from your after-tax salary and claiming a tax deduction. You can reduce your taxable income and the amount of income tax you pay by converting non-concessional personal contributions into concessional contributions. However you will have to be mindful not to exceed your contribution limits because you may pay extra tax. Members aged 67 to 74 years old will be required to meet the work test in order to claim a tax deduction on a personal contribution. To meet the work test, you must be gainfully employed for at least 40 hours in 30 consecutive days in the financial year in which the contributions are made.

Note: If you claim a tax deduction for personal contributions made in a financial year, you may not be eligible for a Government co-contribution.

How to make additional contributions.

Salary sacrifice contributions.

To arrange salary sacrifice payments, you need to speak to your employer. Some employers don't offer salary sacrifice or they might not be able to let you salary sacrifice if it brings your salary under the minimum prescribed amount under an award.

For more information, download our salary sacrifice guide from hostplus.com.au/forms-and-brochures or call **1300 467 875** for a copy.

Personal contributions.

The easiest way to make personal contributions is to make a payment through BPAY® or arrange payroll deductions or set up a direct debit.

How to claim a tax deduction for personal contributions.

You must complete and send to Hostplus the ATO form **Notice of intent to claim or vary a deduction for personal super contributions (NAT 71121)** available from the ATO website. You must give the ATO form to Hostplus at the earliest of either before you lodge your income tax return for the financial year in which you made the personal contribution, or at the end of the financial year following the year in which you made the personal contribution. Hostplus is required to acknowledge your request before you are able to claim a tax deduction.

Before you decide which option is best for your personal circumstances, you might like to speak to a Hostplus financial planner[2].

Talk to us on **1300 303 188** or visit hostplus.com.au to make an appointment today.

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i Remember to provide your Tax File Number

We need your Tax File Number (TFN) before we can accept personal contributions from you. If you don't supply us with your TFN, all personal contributions will be returned to you.

Also, without your TFN recorded, your superannuation guarantee contributions from your employer and your salary sacrifice contributions will be taxed at 45% (plus Medicare levy), instead of just 15%.

To provide us with your TFN, simply head to hostplus.com.au and submit it online or call 1300 467 875.

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* Note: From 2022-23 onwards if you are aged less than 75 years you do not need to meet work test or work test exemption for your fund to accept a non-mandated contribution. Your fund can also accept a contribution if they determine it relates to a period when you were eligible. For example, government co-contribution can always be accepted because they relate to a period when member contributions could be made.

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WE'RE HERE TO HELP

If you have any questions, we're happy to help. Just call **1300 467 875**, 8am – 8pm AEST /AEDT, Monday to Friday or visit **hostplus.com.au**

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