

Spouse contributions

SECURING A FINANCIAL FUTURE TOGETHER

WHAT ARE SPOUSE CONTRIBUTIONS?

Spouse contributions allow you to contribute money to your spouse's super account. These contributions assist in growing your joint retirement savings and in most cases, receive a number of tax benefits.

Plus, your spouse can access the benefits that a GESB membership offers if they don't already have a GESB account.

WHO CAN MAKE SPOUSE CONTRIBUTIONS?

As a member of GESB, you can make a spouse contribution on behalf of your spouse who is aged under 65 years or aged 65 - 69 years and have worked at least 40 hours in a period of no more than 30 consecutive days in the year, **AND** is

- Your husband or wife, **OR**
- Your de facto partner who lives permanently with you on a bona fide domestic basis (including same sex partners).

WHAT ARE THE TAX BENEFITS OF MAKING SPOUSE CONTRIBUTIONS?

There are a number of potential tax benefits in making spouse contributions. These can include receiving an 18% tax offset on the contributions; the spouse contributions being tax-free; and your spouse paying less tax on their final super benefit.

Tax offset of 18%

Making spouse contributions is especially beneficial if your spouse is not working or has a low income. If your spouse's assessable income plus reportable employer super contributions and reportable fringe benefits is less than \$10,800 pa, the first \$3,000 of spouse contributions entitles you to an 18% tax offset. This is up to a maximum of \$540 per year.

The table below illustrates how the tax offset works.

Your spouse's annual income	Amount paid into your spouse's account	Maximum amount eligible for tax offset	Tax offset available to you
\$9,000	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$540
\$10,800	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$540
\$12,000	\$5,000	\$1,800	\$324
\$13,000	\$5,000	\$800	\$144
\$13,800	\$5,000	Nil	Nil

Your spouse can earn up to \$13,800 pa for you to receive a partial tax offset. If your spouse earns more than this, no tax offset can be claimed.

To qualify for the offset, both you and your spouse must be Australian residents at the time you make the spouse contributions. Also, your spouse must be aged under 65 years or be aged 65 - 69 years and have worked at least 40 hours in a period of no more than 30 consecutive days in the year.

Spouse contributions are tax-free

Spouse contributions are treated as 'non-concessional contributions', which means that they are not subject to contributions tax and are also tax-free upon withdrawal.

Lower tax on final benefit

If your spouse accumulates a limited amount of super benefits before they retire, their final benefit may fall within the low rate cap. By making contributions to your spouse's super, you could both benefit from your spouse's low rate cap if your spouse accesses their benefit before age 60. Payments from your spouse's account may attract a lower tax rate than is applicable to benefits paid from your account.

The low rate cap for the 2011/12 financial year is \$165,000. For more information on low rate caps, refer to the 'Contributing to your super' brochure and relevant 'Product Information Booklet' available at gesb.com.au or by calling 13 43 72.

OPENING AN ACCOUNT FOR YOUR SPOUSE

If your spouse doesn't have an eligible GESB account, then we will open one for them. Under State Super Regulations, your spouse is able to open a GESB account. See the 'Who can make spouse contributions' section in the previous column to see who is eligible.

HOW YOU AND YOUR SPOUSE CAN BENEFIT FROM GESB MEMBERSHIP

- Low fees
- With GESB's super accounts, there are no fees when making contributions
- And with low administration fees, you'll both have more super to invest and grow for the future

You will both also be protected from the erosion of fees and charges if the account is less than \$1,000 (at 30 June each year) with member protection. This means that administration fees charged will not be more than the investment earnings for the year. However, accounts under \$1,000 are still impacted by insurance premiums, tax and possible negative investment returns, where applicable. Also, a \$10 pa fee may also be applied to accounts that have received member protection.

For more details about our fees, see the relevant 'Schedule of fees' flyer at gesb.com.au.

CONSOLIDATE YOUR SUPER AND SAVE

You both may have super accounts with other super funds, paying multiple sets of fees and charges. Take advantage of our low fees by transferring other super accounts to GESB at any time. We do not charge a fee for this service.

To consolidate your super, simply complete a 'Super consolidation' form available at gesb.com.au or contact your Member Services Centre on 13 43 72.

Note: Other funds may charge a fee when super benefits are withdrawn and may impact other benefits such as insurance cover.

CHOOSE AN INVESTMENT PLAN

With GESB Super and West State Super you and your spouse can choose from our range of investment plans, from low risk/low return to high risk/high return plans.

Before making an investment choice, read the 'Investment choice' brochure and relevant 'Product Information Booklet' (PIB) to learn about the investment plans and to decide which one best suits each of your needs.

You and your spouse can change investment plan at any time online via Member Online or by completing the relevant 'Investment choice' form. If you don't choose an investment plan, your funds will be invested in the default option.

ACCESS TO GESB'S ALLOCATED PENSION

You both will have the ability to transfer your final benefit to GESB's Retirement Income Allocated Pension.

For more information about GESB's Retirement Income Allocated Pension, refer to gesb.com.au and the Retirement Income Allocated Pension PIB.

WHEN CAN SPOUSE CONTRIBUTIONS BE ACCESSED?

As with any other contribution to super, spouse contributions are subject to a number of preservation rules.

Read the 'Accessing your super' fact sheet which is available from gesb.com.au or your Member Services Centre.

HOW TO MAKE A SPOUSE CONTRIBUTION TO GESB

There is no minimum amount for any contribution to your spouse's account, including your initial contribution. If your spouse doesn't have an existing eligible GESB account, we will automatically open a GESB Super account for them.

To start making contributions on behalf of your spouse, just follow the simple steps below.

STEP 1 COMPLETE ATTACHED FORM

You and your spouse will need to complete and sign the attached 'Spouse contributions' form.

STEP 2 ENCLOSE CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER

Make a cheque or money order payable to GESB.

STEP 3 POST TO GESB

Send contribution together with the completed form to:

GESB
PO Box J 755
Perth WA 6842

STEP 4 CONFIRMATION

Once we have processed the first contribution, your spouse will receive confirmation in writing.

STEP 5 FURTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

For each subsequent spouse contribution you will need to complete an 'Additional spouse contribution' form, to verify that you are living permanently together on a bona fide domestic basis. We will send an acknowledgement letter to your spouse for every contribution processed.

If you have any questions, contact your Member Services Centre on **13 43 72** or visit gesb.com.au.

Spouse contributions

MAKING YOUR FIRST CONTRIBUTION

☎ Member Services Centre 13 43 72 📠 Facsimile 1800 300 067 🌐 gesb.com.au
✉ PO Box J 755, Perth WA 6842 📍 Level 4 Central Park, 152 St Georges Terrace, Perth

Complete this form if you are making a spouse contribution for the first time. If you have previously made a spouse contribution, use the 'Additional spouse contributions' form.

SECTION 1 PERSONAL DETAILS

Contributing spouse – Your details

GESB member number

Mr Mrs Miss Ms Other

Surname (family name) please print

Given names

Date of birth / / Male Female

Email address

Daytime phone number

Receiving spouse – Your spouse's details

GESB member number (if you have one)

WIN No. Office Use Only

Mr Mrs Miss Ms Other

Surname (family name) please print

Given names

Date of birth / / Male Female

Residential address

Postcode

Postal address (If different from residential)

Postcode

Email address

Telephone – home

Telephone – work

Telephone – mobile

SECTION 2 INITIAL CONTRIBUTION

Contributing spouse

- A cheque or money order must accompany this form
- Contributions cannot be made by via Bpay® as an acknowledgement must accompany each contribution (Section 3)
- For every additional spouse contribution you must complete an 'Additional spouse contributions' form

Specify the amount you are contributing on your spouse's behalf.

\$

Make the cheque or money order payable to GESB and send it to us together with this form.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY



Note: GESB has a Privacy Statement that sets out how GESB handles private information about individuals responsibly. Our Privacy Statement is available on our website or can be obtained by contacting your Member Services Centre.

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SECTION 3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Both partners

In signing this form we confirm:

- At the time of making this spouse contribution we live permanently together on a bona fide domestic basis as a married couple or de facto partners.

Receiving spouse

To be able to receive contributions from your spouse, you must meet the following conditions. Tick one box to confirm your eligibility.

- I am under the age of 65.
- I have reached age 65 but not age 70, and I have worked at least 40 hours in a period of 30 consecutive days in this financial year.

In signing this form I acknowledge that:

- I understand that the contribution will be allocated to my eligible GESB account and invested in my nominated investment plan. If I have not nominated an investment plan, all monies will be invested in the Balanced plan in West State Super or the Balanced Growth plan in GESB Super (the default investment plans).
- I have read the relevant 'Product Information Booklet' and the 'Spouse contributions' brochure and understand that they contain general information only and do not take into account my investment objectives, financial situation or needs.
- I understand that any benefits accruing on my behalf in my GESB account are subject to rules and conditions of release applicable to that scheme, including preservation standards (see the relevant 'Product Information Booklet').

CONTRIBUTING SPOUSE

Your signature

Date

X

/ /

RECEIVING SPOUSE

Signature

Date

X

/ /

SECTION 4 YOUR SPOUSE'S TAX FILE NUMBER

Before you provide us with your tax file number (TFN) please note:

If you provide your TFN, it will only be used for purposes approved by the law. The purposes currently authorised include:

- Taxing super benefits at concessional rates.
- Locating and amalgamating your super benefits where other information is insufficient.
- Passing your TFN to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) where you receive a benefit.
- Passing your TFN to the ATO so they can determine any Superannuation Contributions Surcharge that may be payable.
- Passing your TFN to another super fund that will be receiving any benefits you may transfer.

You are not required to provide your TFN. Declining to provide your TFN is not an offence. However, if you do not provide your TFN:

- You may pay more tax on your super benefits than you have to.
- Super contributions made by your employer (including salary sacrifice contributions) may be taxed at an extra 31.5%.
- We may be unable to accept your personal, after-tax contributions which could affect your eligibility for the Commonwealth Government Super Co-contribution.
- You may be unnecessarily liable for the Superannuation Contributions Surcharge in relation to contributions pre-1 July 2005.
- It may be more difficult to locate and amalgamate your super benefits in the future.

The purpose for which your TFN can be used and the consequences of not quoting it may change in the future as a result of changes in the law.

For more information on providing your TFN you can call the ATO Superannuation Helpline on 13 10 20.

Your spouse's details

Mr Mrs Miss Ms Other

Surname (family name) please print

Given names

Tax file number

I do not wish for my tax file number to be passed onto another super fund.

Your spouse's signature

Date

X

/ /

SECTION 5 CHECKLIST (✓)

- This is your first spouse contribution. If not, use the 'Additional spouse contributions' form.
- You and your spouse have signed the acknowledgement in Section 3.
- You have enclosed a cheque or money order for your spouse contribution.
- Your spouse has completed 'Section 4 - Your spouse's tax file number' if they have not previously provided their TFN to GESB.

Send your contribution and completed form to:

GESB
PO Box J 755
Perth WA 6842

How to contact us

Member Services Centre 13 43 72 Facsimile 1800 300 067 gesb.com.au
PO Box J 755, Perth WA 6842 Level 4 Central Park, 152 St Georges Terrace, Perth