

**Can I make personal contributions into the same fund as my employer contributions?**

You should check with your current super fund to make sure they accept personal contributions.

**How will I know that I have received the Super Co-contribution?**

The Tax Office will send you a letter with details about your Super Co-contribution amount after it has been deposited into your super account. Your Super Co-contribution will usually be paid into the fund where you make your personal contributions.

**Can I get the Super Co-contribution next year as well?**

Yes. For each year that you are eligible, make personal super contributions and lodge a tax return, the Government will make a Super Co-contribution to your super account.

**Can the Super Co-contribution be paid into my bank account?**

No. The Super Co-contribution will be paid into your super account. The preservation rules that apply to your current super fund also apply to the Super Co-contribution.

**How will the Super Co-contribution be taxed?**

The Super Co-contribution will be treated as an undeducted contribution for taxation purposes and will not be subject to any taxation when paid into your account. The amount will not be taxed as an end benefit and will not count towards your Reasonable Benefit Limit.

**How is my income assessed?**

To be eligible to receive the Super Co-contribution you need to have earned less than \$40,000 during the year. This figure, in most cases represents your total income plus your reportable fringe benefits.



**For more information on the Super Co-contribution:**

- Visit our website at [www.ato.gov.au/super](http://www.ato.gov.au/super)
- Phone the Tax Office Superannuation Infoline on **13 10 20**.
- Obtain a fax by phoning **13 28 60**.
- Write to us at PO Box 277, World Trade Centre VIC 8005.
- If you don't speak English well and want to talk to a tax officer, call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **13 14 50** for help with your call.
- If you have a hearing or speech impairment and have access to appropriate TTY or modem equipment, phone **13 36 77**. If you do not have access to TTY or modem equipment, phone the Speech to Speech Relay Service on **1300 555 727**.
- Ask your super fund, tax agent or financial adviser for more information.



NAT 10596-02.2004



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Taxation Office**

Authorised by the Australian Government, Capital Hill, Canberra ACT.  
Written by Stephen Murtagh, Australian Taxation Office, Canberra.  
Printed by Paragon Printers, Fyshwick, ACT, 2609.



**How the Australian Government can give your super a helping hand.**



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Taxation Office**

If you earn less than \$40,000 a year, and make personal superannuation contributions, the Government will now give you a helping hand with the Super Co-contribution.

It means that if you earn \$27,500 or less a year, the Government will match your personal super contributions, up to \$1,000 a year, on a dollar-for-dollar basis. For every dollar you put into your super, the Government will put in a dollar, too.

When you earn more than \$27,500 but less than \$40,000 a year, your Super Co-contribution will be adjusted based on your income and how much you personally contribute. For example, if you earn \$32,000 a year and make personal super contributions of \$1,000 during that year, you will be entitled to a Super Co-contribution of \$640.

## How does it work?

	If your personal super contribution is:			
	\$1000	\$800	\$500	\$200
<b>And your income is:</b>	Your Super Co-contribution will be:			
<b>\$27,500 or less</b>	\$1,000	\$800	\$500	\$200
<b>\$28,000</b>	\$960	\$800	\$500	\$200
<b>\$29,000</b>	\$880	\$800	\$500	\$200
<b>\$30,000</b>	\$800	\$800	\$500	\$200
<b>\$31,000</b>	\$720	\$720	\$500	\$200
<b>\$32,000</b>	\$640	\$640	\$500	\$200
<b>\$33,000</b>	\$560	\$560	\$500	\$200
<b>\$34,000</b>	\$480	\$480	\$480	\$200
<b>\$35,000</b>	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$200
<b>\$36,000</b>	\$320	\$320	\$320	\$200
<b>\$37,000</b>	\$240	\$240	\$240	\$200
<b>\$38,000</b>	\$160	\$160	\$160	\$160
<b>\$39,000</b>	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$80
<b>\$40,000</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

## Are you eligible for the Super Co-contribution?

To be eligible for the Super Co-contribution you need to meet certain requirements. Broadly, you need to:

- have made or make personal contributions to your super;
- earn less than \$40,000 a year before tax (individual income, not household income);
- be employed full-time, part-time or on a casual basis (but not self-employed);
- be entitled to receive superannuation contributions from your employer (Note: the Government is proposing that the law be amended to change this requirement, making more people eligible); and
- be under 71 years of age.

## From little things big things grow

You can choose to make a lump sum personal contribution or make more regular contributions to your super. Over time your personal contributions can make a difference to your retirement savings, especially with the Super Co-contribution to lend a helping hand.

Of course, you may not always earn under \$40,000 a year during your working life, but when you do, you can add to your retirement savings with the Super Co-contribution.

## Super Co-contribution – It’s easy

You don’t need to apply for the Super Co-contribution. After the end of each financial year, when we have received your tax return and information from your super fund, we will work out your Super Co-contribution, deposit it into your super account and send you a letter with details of your Super Co-contribution.



## Your questions answered

### When does it start?

The Super Co-contribution started on 1 July 2003 and replaces the tax offset for personal super contributions. This means any personal contributions you make or have made from 1 July 2003 will count towards your Super Co-contribution from the Government.

### How often will I receive the Super Co-contribution?

Your Super Co-contribution will be calculated after you have lodged your tax return. As long as you make personal super contributions and meet the eligibility requirements, you will receive the Super Co-contribution each financial year.

### What is “personal super”?

Personal super is the amount of money you choose to contribute to your super from your after-tax income. This is in addition to the contributions made by your employer and any contributions made through a salary sacrifice arrangement.

### How do I make a personal contribution to my super fund?

Your super fund will be able to tell you how to best make personal contributions. Most funds offer different options for making contributions including BPAY, direct debit or through your bank account. In some cases, you may be able to deposit a certain amount into your super account directly from your pay – talk to your employer or paymaster.

### I earn less than \$40,000 a year now, what happens if I earn more than that?

To be eligible for the Super Co-contribution, you need to be earning less than \$40,000 a year. For each year that you earn less than \$40,000, meet the eligibility requirements and make personal super contributions, you will receive the Super Co-contribution. You won’t be eligible for the Super Co-contribution for any year that you earn \$40,000 or more.