



Preserved benefit

Approved Invalidation Benefit Claim Form and Information Leaflet

Before completing this benefit application form, you should read the **PSS Product Disclosure Statement** at www.pss.gov.au or call 1300 000 377.

The attached benefit application form should be completed by preserved benefit members of the Public Sector Superannuation (PSS) Scheme who have **gained approval** to access to their preserved benefits on invalidity grounds.

Read this first!

These explanatory notes are intended to assist you to complete the attached benefit application form. They are not intended to provide a detailed explanation of your benefit options.

It is suggested that you separate the notes from the form (if joined) so that you can refer to them as you complete the application form.

Where can you find more about your benefit entitlements?

There are many ARIA publications that explain the various benefit options which are available to you. Before completing this benefit application form, you are advised to read the **PSS Product Disclosure Statement** at www.pss.gov.au or call 1300 000 377.

Detailed information on your options can be found in the **PSS Super Book**. Please use this book as your reference when you are deciding on your election options. There are also fact sheets on *Taxation of Lump Sum and Pension Benefits* and *Preservation of Benefits* which you should read. These can be downloaded from the PSS web site at: www.pss.gov.au/pss/forms

Other sources of information include the following:

- > ComSuper's Call Centre can provide details of your benefit entitlement, explain the benefit options and provide information on the value of your prospective benefits. For more information:

Telephone: 1300 000 377
 Fax: (02) 6272 9613
 Email: members@pss.gov.au

- > It is in your interest to seek professional advice before you make a decision on a benefit. We cannot provide you with financial advice.

Forms you need to complete when claiming your PSS preserved benefit

- > the attached Benefit Application form;
- > If you have chosen to receive all or part of your benefit as a pension and you wish to claim the tax free threshold and/or any available offsets and deductions against your pension benefit, you should complete a *Tax File Number Declaration*, obtainable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), or designated newsagents that distribute ATO forms.

The benefit application form

Your accurate completion of the Benefit Application form allows us to process the application as soon as possible after a claim has been made. Take care when completing this form. If you do not complete the Benefit Application form correctly, the processing of your benefit will be delayed, or may be paid incorrectly.

Section A — Personal details

Please complete all the boxes in this Section. It enables us to identify you and any other potential beneficiary, and tells us where we can contact you.

Relationship details

Details of your relationship status, including same sex or opposite sex de facto relationships, should be provided. You may wish to include a copy of your marriage certificate or registered relationship certificate with your application. This would speed up the process in the event that a spouse's benefit becomes payable.

For the definition of a spouse for death benefits, see the **Death benefits** fact sheet at www.pss.gov.au.

Contact details

The postal address you provide is where all correspondence will be sent.

A contact phone number is also required in case we need to contact you regarding the payment of your benefit.

If you have an email address, inclusion of your current email address will be helpful.

Section B—Information acknowledgment and preliminary matters affecting your benefit entitlement

B1—Information acknowledgment

Please complete this acknowledgement that you have received and understood sufficient information to be able to make an informed choice of how you would like your benefit paid and that you have been advised to read the **PSS Product Disclosure Statement** before completing this form.

You are making a formal election under the provisions of the *Superannuation Act 1990*. This election is binding and cannot normally be changed, although ARIA may, at its absolute discretion, agree to cancel an election in certain circumstances.

Information sources are shown at the start of these explanatory notes and it is **strongly recommended** that you make use of them **before** proceeding to complete this application form.

You should also note that, if your benefit has been changed and you then change your mind about the benefit payment arrangements, a fee will be charged by us for the re-issuing of the payment.

B2—Transfer amounts paid to the PSS

The treatment of your 'Transfer Value Amount' paid into the PSS is dependent upon when it was paid. A transfer amount paid after 31 December 1995 is treated differently to an amount paid before that date, unless it is related to:

- > employment during a period of Leave Without Pay (LWOP) that commenced,
 - or
- > prior employment that ceased, before 1 January 1996.

B2.1—Transfer Value Amounts paid to the PSS before 1 January 1996

Generally, your transfer amount will be treated as part of your total benefit and will be paid exactly as you have elected. For example:

- > **if you choose to receive your total benefit as a pension** (Option 1), any transfer amount(s) will also be paid as a pension;
- > **if you choose a pension/lump sum combination** (Option 2), we will pay your transfer amount(s) in the same ratio of pension to lump sum as the rest of your benefit;
 - or
- > if you choose a lump sum as your benefit, (Option 3) any transfer amount (s) will be included in the lump sum.

If you want to receive your transfer amount in any other form or combination (i.e. the main benefit as a pension and transfer amount as a lump sum) you should contact us, before completing the application form attached to this leaflet, to obtain an **SR-Supplement**.

The Supplement contains additional elections for transfer amounts and should be completed and attached to the main application form.

B2.2—Transfer Value Amounts paid to the PSS after 31 December 1995

Most transfer amount payments made to the PSS after 31 December 1995 are **not** included in the calculation of your final benefit accrual and remain identified as a separate lump sum, referred to as an 'Accumulated Transfer Amount'. This amount cannot be converted to pension. This amount can either be rolled over or taken in cash.

You may elect to have your accumulated transfer amount transferred to a complying superannuation scheme, rollover fund or deferred annuity scheme.

B3—Superannuation contributions surcharge

A superannuation surcharge is payable by members whose adjusted taxable income (taxable income plus the value of employer contributions to their superannuation) exceeded certain levels before 1 July 2005. Also, members who had declined to provide their tax file number (TFN) for superannuation purposes may have had surcharge assessed.

The surcharge was abolished from 1 July 2005, however any existing liabilities prior to this date must still be met.

If you had a surcharge debt advised to you by either the ATO or PSS, and you have not paid off the debt, this debt will be actioned as per your benefit application.

If the ATO advises you of a surcharge liability after the date you take your benefit, you should pay the debt direct to the ATO.

Section C — Benefit options

This section contains the benefit options that are available to PSS preserved benefit members who are claiming their benefit on approved invalidity grounds. Each option requires a signed election by the applicant for the benefit choice to be valid. **Only make one choice**, otherwise your benefit application will be invalid and payment will be delayed.

Your benefit may also be subject to deduction of any outstanding superannuation contributions surcharge debt at the date of determination (see **Section B3** on surcharge for more information).

Section C1—Full benefit preserved in the PSS

Option 1—Pension only, no lump sum (only available if all of your benefit remains preserved in the PSS)

If you want to receive your entire benefit as a pension, select this option.

Any outstanding surcharge debt will be deducted from your pension entitlement through the application of pension reduction factors. The result will be a reduction in the amount of pension payable for the life of the pension.

Your benefits will be paid into the bank account nominated by you in Sections E3 to E7. You should also complete and forward a *Tax File Number Declaration* (see Section F).

Option 2—Part pension, refund of member component (only available if all of your benefit remains preserved in the PSS)

If you want to receive your benefit as a combination of pension and lump sum, select this option.

You can take a lump sum of up to your member component and the balance of your PSS benefit is then paid as a pension.

Your benefits will be paid in accordance with your instructions at Section E. You should also complete a *Tax File Number Declaration* (see Section F).

Option 3—Lump sum only, no pension

If you want to take your entire benefit as a lump sum, either in cash or as a rollover to another fund or Retirement Savings Account (RSA), select this option.

Any outstanding surcharge debt will be deducted from the lump sum before it is paid.

The benefit will be paid in accordance with your instructions in Section E.

Section D — Personal earnings declaration

If all or part of your benefit is to be paid as a pension and you are receiving personal earnings (i.e. salary, wages, fees or other amounts for services rendered or work performed, including Directorship fees), you are required to give us particulars of those earnings.

Section E — Benefit payment arrangements

This section allows you to nominate how your lump sum will be paid.

All rollovers must be made to a complying superannuation fund, rollover fund, Retirement Savings Account (RSA), or be used to purchase an annuity.

PSS will not deduct tax from any amount rolled over to a rollover fund, however the untaxed components of the lump sum will be taxed at 15% by the receiving fund. This will alter the nature of the amount from 'untaxed' to 'taxed'.

A higher rate of tax will apply to transfers over \$1.1 million from an untaxed scheme to a taxed scheme.

Taxation legislation provides that, once an amount has been paid to you or deposited in your bank account, it cannot be subsequently rolled over.

Lump sum payments

E1—Lump sum cash payment

This section allows you to advise what portion of your lump sum (subject to proportioning) is to be paid in cash. You are able to select a gross dollar amount, a percentage of the lump sum amount, or if you have selected a rollover in section E2, the balance of the lump sum benefit.

You also have to complete bank account details in sections E3 to E7, to advise us where the cash payment is to be made.

E2—Rollover fund nominations

You can nominate two rollover funds or RSA's to receive all or part of your lump sum benefit. Complete one nomination if you are going to roll over your complete benefit to one fund. Complete both nominations to provide details of a second fund if you are going to split the amount.

All rollover cheques will be made payable to your nominated rollover fund(s) and, unless you specify otherwise, sent C/- you at your home address.

When completing this section you should include sufficient information to enable us to identify the rollover fund or RSA such as the name and Australian Business Number (ABN). You must also provide your Membership Number for the rollover fund or RSA or, if you have not yet been issued with a Membership Number, a Superannuation Product Identification Number (SPIN). These details can be obtained from the rollover fund or RSA concerned. Failure to provide these details will result in delays in the payment of your benefit.

Can I request which part of the benefit to rollover first?

From 1 July 2007, proportioning rules require that your taxable and tax-free components be spread in equal proportions across those parts of the benefit payment you receive as cash or rollover.

Therefore, while you may request a certain order of payment or rollover, the payment will be subject to proportioning.

For further information on how your benefit is taxed it is recommended that you read the PSS fact sheet **Tax and Your PSS Benefit**.

Bank account details

Complete this section if you are electing to receive a cash lump sum or a pension as all or part of your benefit.

E5—BSB number

Please ensure that you include your financial institution's Bank and State Branch (BSB) code, otherwise your payment may be delayed. If you do not know the BSB code, ask your financial institution.

E6—Account number

Please ensure that you use a correct account number—note that it has a maximum of nine (9) digits and is not necessarily the same as your Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) access card number.

It is very important that these details are correct and legible, as incorrect BSB or account numbers can lead to payments going astray or being returned to us.

Return of payment from the banking system and reissue can take a minimum of two weeks to finalise.

E7—Account names

Benefit payments can only be made to an account that is in your name. The account can be in your name alone, or in joint names. If it is a joint account one of the names must be yours.

Section F — Taxation matters

F1—Start date for taxation purposes

For taxation purposes, your lump sum benefit is called a Superannuation Lump Sum Payment.

The start date relates to the date your eligible service period (ESP) commenced and is used to calculate the various components of your Superannuation Lump Sum Payment for taxation purposes.

Generally, your ESP is the number of days between the date you commenced your current employment (which may be earlier than the date you joined the CSS or PSS), and the date your payment is made. If you were formerly a CSS member who commenced membership before 1 July 1983 and you have a Long Service Leave start date that is earlier than your CSS start date, that earlier start date applies as your ESP start date. Earlier periods of employment for which you paid a transfer value into the CSS or PSS are added to your ESP. If this is the case, please fill in the start date of that earlier period of service.

If you do not show a date in this section, we will use the date on which you joined the PSS Scheme as your start date (unless you transferred from the CSS Scheme, in which case your CSS start date will be used).

F2—Your Tax File Number

In accordance with the *Taxation Laws Amendment (Tax File Numbers) Act 1988*, we are required to deduct PAYG tax at the top marginal rate plus the Medicare levy from benefits if a person does not provide a Tax File Number (TFN).

If you have not been issued a TFN you should lodge an *Australian Taxation Office Application/Enquiry* form with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Forms are available at www.ato.gov.au or all ATO branches. You must provide proof of identity at the time you lodge the form.

F3—Approval to advise your TFN to rollover funds

We will provide your TFN to the receiving fund unless you instruct us not to. Please note that there are consequences for not supplying your TFN to a fund.

F4—Tax File Number Declaration

If you have chosen to receive all or part of your benefit as a pension (**Section D, Part 1, Options 1 or 2**) and you wish to claim the tax free threshold and/or available offsets and deductions against your pension benefit, you should complete this ATO Declaration form and attach it to your benefit application.

Documents you may receive from us

After your benefit is paid you will receive some documents associated with your entitlements. Depending on which benefit you choose, these documents may include:

- > a benefit payment letter, advising you of your benefit entitlement and when your payment will be made;
- > a Rollover Benefits Statement, in duplicate for each rollover nominated in Section E, which shows the breakup, for taxation purposes of each rollover you nominate;
- > a PAYG Payment Summary, in duplicate, for any lump sum cash payment paid to you;
- > a rollover payment cheque (or cheques), made payable to your nominated rollover fund(s); and
- > a PAYG Payment Summary and annual pension increase advice for any pension payments paid to you (which are sent to you in July each year if you are receiving a pension).

Do NOT lose these documents. They may be required to complete tax returns, lodge rollovers, or apply for Centrelink benefits, etc. It will take some time to issue replacements.

Rollover requirements

Rollover cheques are sent to you at the postal address you nominate on your Benefit Application form. **It is your responsibility to lodge them with the rollover fund with a copy of the Rollover Benefits Statement.**

Note: Do not send any rollover forms to us.

What next?

When you have completed your benefit application form, the completed form should be sent to ComSuper.

Note: ComSuper cannot process the payment of your benefit until after the date you have nominated as the date from which your preserved benefit is to be paid. You may, however, submit your application form **before** this date. This will allow ComSuper to check that all documentation and information has been provided.

Remember, the sooner ComSuper gets your correctly completed application form, the less likelihood there is of any delay in the processing of your benefit.

Privacy

ARIA and its Administrator, ComSuper are collecting the information on this form for the following reasons:

- > to confirm your identity
- > to assess your eligibility for payment of the benefit
- > to pay your benefit
- > to contact you.

ARIA and ComSuper are committed to protecting any personal information we hold about you.

Your information will not be used for any other purpose or disclosed to another party unless:

- > you authorise us to do so
- > the disclosure is authorised by law. This may include disclosing your personal information to other Government agencies that have specific legislative authority to collect this information as required by policy and legislation. We will not disclose your personal information to these agencies unless it is lawful to do so.

Change of address

If you receive a pension it is very important that you advise us of any change in your postal address or your bank account details. This will enable us to forward information to you each year regarding your benefit.

All enquiries: 1300 000 377

SECTION B — Information Acknowledgement

(Benefit processing may be delayed if this acknowledgment is NOT completed)

I have been given enough information to make an informed decision about how I would like my benefit to be paid and I have been advised to read the PSS Product Disclosure Statement before completing this form.

I also understand that, by choosing a benefit option in Section C, I am making a formal election under the provisions of the PSS legislation and this benefit election cannot be changed **except in certain circumstances approved by ARIA**.

SIGNATURE

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DATE

DAY	MONTH	YEAR
/	/	

If you need more information, or would like to talk about the options you have, please call our Contact Centre on telephone 1300 000 377, facsimile (02) 6272 9613, or email members@pss.gov.au.

You should also note that, if after your benefit has been paid, you wish to change your mind about the payment arrangements, a fee will be charged by us to re-issue the payment.

SECTION C — Benefit options

Please ensure that only ONE benefit option is completed

Option 1 Pension only, no lump sum (only available if all of your benefit remains preserved in the PSS)

FULL NAME

I,

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whose Reference (AGS) No. is

AGS NUMBER

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elect to take my benefit as a pension.

SIGNATURE

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DATE

DAY	MONTH	YEAR
/	/	

You have now completed this section. You must now go to E3 – E7 **Bank Account details**, to tell us how you would like your pension paid.

Option 2 Part pension and part lump sum (subject to proportioning) (only available if all of your benefit remains preserved in the PSS)

FULL NAME

I,

--

whose Reference (AGS) No. is and part as a lumpsum.

AGS NUMBER

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elect to take my benefit as a pension

I wish to be paid a lump sum of my accumulated member contributions, with the balance of my benefit to be paid as pension; or

I wish to be paid a lesser lump sum of \$

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 (gross) with the balance to be paid as a pension.

SIGNATURE

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DATE

DAY	MONTH	YEAR
/	/	

Option 2 continued over page

Option 2 continued

Surcharge repayment

If you have an outstanding superannuation contributions surcharge debt, the debt can be deducted from either your pension or your lump sum. (Refer to Section D5 of the Explanatory Notes for further details.)

Please select one of the following repayment options:

- deduct the surcharge deduction amount from my pension; OR
- deduct the surcharge deduction amount from my lump sum.

SIGNATURE

DATE

DAY		MONTH		YEAR	

You have now completed this section. You must now go to **Section E—Payment Arrangements**, to tell us how you would like your lump sum and your pension paid.

Option 3 Lump sum only, no pension

FULL NAME

I,

whose Reference (AGS) No. is

AGS NUMBER

elect to take my benefit as a lumpsum.

SIGNATURE

DATE

DAY		MONTH		YEAR	

You have now completed this section. You must now go to **Section E—Payment Arrangements**, to tell us how you would like your lump sum benefit paid.

SECTION D — Personal earnings declaration

After retirement will you be in receipt of personal earnings (refer to the Explanatory Notes for the definition of personal earnings)?

- YES NO

If YES who will be paying for the services rendered of the work performed? (if self employed write 'Self')

My estimated pre-tax earnings will be \$

 per *week/*fortnight/*month/*year

SIGNATURE

DATE

DAY		MONTH		YEAR	

(* delete as applicable)

SECTION E — Benefit payment arrangements

Lump sum payments

E1. Complete this to tell us how much of your lump sum (subject to proportioning) you would like as a cash payment.

Lump sum cash payment, comprising: (See also Sections E3 to E7 for bank account details)

Either: A gross dollar amount:

Or A percentage of my lump sum: %

Or Accumulated Transfer Amount only

Or Member component only

Or The benefit balance after any rollovers (This will be the total of your benefit if you are not rolling over any part of your lump sum)

E2. Rollover Fund or Retirement Savings Account (RSA) nominated to receive all or part of your lump sum

Name of first nominated Fund or RSA

Australian Business Number (ABN) for Fund or RSA

Membership Number for Fund or RSA

Superannuation Product Identification Number (SPIN) for Fund or RSA

OR

(These numbers can be obtained from the rollover fund or RSA concerned - refer to Section E2 of the Explanatory Notes for further details)

The Amount you would like to be paid to this Rollover fund or RSA:

Either: A gross dollar amount:

Or A percentage: %

Or Accumulated Transfer Amount only

Or Member component only

Or The balance of my lump sum benefit:

E2 continued over page

SECTION F — Taxation matters

F1. What is your start date for taxation purposes?

(See Section F in the Explanatory Notes)

DAY			MONTH			YEAR		
		/			/			

F2. Providing your TFN is voluntary. If you choose not to provide it you will not commit an offence. The consequences of not providing your TFN are:

- > tax will be deducted from your benefit/s at the highest marginal rate
- > the trustee of another superannuation scheme or RSA provider holding your benefits now or in the future may not be able to locate, amalgamate or identify your benefits in order to pay you

Note that these consequences may change in the future as a result of legislative change.

The PSS is authorised to collect your TFN under the provisions of the *Superannuation (Supervision) Act 1993*. We will treat your TFN as confidential and will only use it for legal purposes, which include:

- > disclosing it to the trustee of an eligible superannuation entity, regulated exempt public sector superannuation scheme or RSA provider to which your benefits are transferred in the future, unless you specifically instruct us not to
- > finding or identifying your superannuation benefits where other information is insufficient
- > calculating tax on your benefits
- > providing information to the Commissioner for Taxation.

Note that the lawful purposes may change in the future as a result of legislative change.

If you have already provided your TFN to us, you are under no obligation to provide it again in this application.

What is your Tax File Number?

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F3. Select this box if you do not want us to pass on your TFN

Tax File Number Declaration

F4. Pension recipients should also obtain and complete a *Tax File Number Declaration* form (obtainable from the ATO) in order to claim any available tax offsets and deductions. **Attach the completed Declaration to this application form.**

Please proceed to the checklist

Member checklist

Have you:

- read all the explanatory notes, received a benefit estimate, and any other information you require to make an informed choice;
- filled in all the sections applicable to you;
- signed the Declaration at Section D;
- signed the Information Acknowledgement at section B;
- signed an election option in section C;
- completed any rollover details in section E2;
- completed the bank account details in sections E3 to E7;
- provided your TFN in section F2; and
- attached your completed *Tax File Number Declaration* (for pension recipients only)?
- attached a copy of your marriage certificate or registered relationship certificate?

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED THIS FORM

Please return it to: PSS, PO Box 22, BELCONNEN ACT 2616