

## Spouse contributions

Contributions can be made to LGsuper on behalf of your spouse (married, de facto or same sex partner) if he or she is living with you at the time contributions are made and they are under age 65. If your spouse is between age 65 and 69 years, they can only receive a contribution if they worked at least 40 hours in a 30 consecutive day period of the current financial year. Once a spouse is aged 70 plus they can no longer receive spouse contributions.

### Tax offset for spouse contributions

As long as your spouse earns less than \$13,800 p.a. the contributing spouse will be eligible for a tax offset on the first \$3000 of contributions made each financial year. If your spouse earns \$13,800 p.a. or more, you can still make spouse contributions but you will not be able to claim the tax offset.

So, how much is the offset? It depends on how much the receiving spouse earns.

Receiving spouse's income p.a.	Tax offset amount on first \$3000 contributed
\$10,799 or less	\$540
\$10,800—\$13,799	Rebate reduces as income increases
\$13,800	\$0

### Example

Tom makes a \$5000 spouse contribution for his wife Penny. Penny has an income of \$11,800 p.a., so how much offset does Tom get?

Step 1 Annual income minus lower limit (at which full offset applies)

$$= \$11,800 - \$10,800$$

$$= \$1000$$

Step 2 First \$3000 of contributions minus the result from Step 1

$$= \$3000 - \$1000$$

$$= \$2000$$

Step 3 Result from Step 2 x 18%

$$= \$2000 \times 18\%$$

$$= \text{offset of } \$360$$

## Opening a Spouse account

An LGsuper account can be opened for your spouse with a contribution of \$100 or more. Once you have opened an account for your spouse, any additional lump sum contributions made to his/her account must also be at least \$100. If you wish to make regular contributions to your spouse's account via payroll deduction, and your employer is prepared to do this, each contribution must be at least \$10.

To open a Spouse account, download a copy of the *Spouse account guide (PDS)* and *Voluntary contribution deposit form* available from our website or contact us for a copy.

## Can an employer contribute to a Spouse account?

Any employer can contribute to your spouse's LGsuper account while they are under age 70. For information on opening a Spouse account, download a copy of our *Spouse account guide (PDS)* from our website or contact us for a copy.

## Contribution splitting

You can split contributions made in the previous financial year to your spouse's LGsuper account. If your spouse does not have an account set up, you can use the money you have split to set up an account for them, so long as it is more than \$100. View the *Spouse account guide (PDS)* for more information.

## Co-contribution

Spouse contributions are not eligible to receive the super co-contribution. Your spouse could make a voluntary contribution themselves and receive the co-contribution if they meet eligibility requirements. For more information get a copy of our *Co-contribution info sheet*.

## Options at retirement

Your spouse can transfer to either the Retained Benefit account or a Pension account upon permanent retirement from the workforce after reaching their preservation age (age 55 if he/she was born before 1 July 1960). This is providing that your spouse has, at some time in the past, been gainfully employed (i.e. working at least 10 hours or more per week).

Upon retirement, your spouse will be required to complete a statement declaring that he/she was previously gainfully employed and has now permanently retired and doesn't intend to ever again become gainfully employed on either a full-time basis or on a part-time basis. Your spouse will also need to provide evidence of his/her date of birth.

If your spouse has never been gainfully employed, then he/she will not be able to access their superannuation until reaching age 65 (or on satisfying another release condition such as total and permanent disability).

## Any questions?

LGsuper is here to help. Contact us on 1800 444 396 to talk through your options and have your questions answered.

This info sheet has been prepared by the Queensland Local Government Superannuation Board (AFSL 230511 RSE Licence No. L0000178) on behalf of the Local Government Superannuation Scheme (ABN 23 053 121 564 RSE Registration No. R1000160). Information on products offered by the Board can be found in our product disclosure statements.

It provides general information only and does not take into account your personal objectives, financial situation or needs. The Board recommends you consult with an authorised or licensed financial advisor if you require advice which takes into account your personal financial circumstances. LGsuper has representatives that are authorised to provide personal advice on LGsuper products and superannuation.

Jul 10

Toll free 1800 444 396  
Facsimile 07 3244 4344  
info@lgsuper.org  
www.lgsuper.org

GPO Box 264  
Brisbane Qld 4001

The Queensland Local Government Superannuation Board  
ABN 94 085 088 484  
AFS Licence No. 230511  
Local Government Superannuation Scheme  
ABN 23 053 121 564