

# Superannuation Co-contribution

## What is the co-contribution?

The Commonwealth Government's co-contribution legislation was introduced on 1 July 2003 and is a payment made by the Commonwealth to the superannuation account of low income earners who make after-tax personal contributions to their superannuation account.

Salary sacrifice or contributions for which you intend to claim a tax deduction are not eligible for the co-contribution.

Any payments into your superannuation fund will be preserved and can only be accessed when a condition of release is met.

## Who is entitled to a co-contribution?

The Commonwealth Government match the personal contributions of qualifying low income earners.

To determine if you are entitled to a co-contribution, income thresholds relevant to each financial year are provided in the following table. As announced in the 2010 Commonwealth Budget, the income thresholds have been frozen until 30 June 2012.

Year	Lower income threshold	Upper income threshold
2008-09	\$30 342	\$60 342
2009-10	\$31 920	\$61 920
2010-11	\$31 920	\$61 920
2011-12	\$31 920	\$61 920

The maximum co-contribution is permanently fixed at \$1000, based on eligible contributions of \$1000.

The co-contribution decreases by 3.33 cents for each dollar over the lower income threshold, and phases out at the upper income threshold.

## Do I need to apply?

No, you do not need to apply. The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) will determine whether you are entitled to a co-contribution from the information provided by your superannuation fund and from your income tax return.

## How will I receive the co-contribution?

If you qualify, the ATO will pay the co-contributions direct into the superannuation fund that has provided the ATO with your details.

If you consider that you qualify and a co-contribution payment has not been made to your superannuation account, please contact the ATO to establish why you have not received the payment.

## Further questions?

Visit the ATO website at [www.ato.gov.au/super](http://www.ato.gov.au/super). Under the 'Growing and consolidating super' heading you will find a section on 'super co-contributions'. The website also has a calculator to work out the amount of co-contributions you may be entitled to receive.

## Disclaimer

This information is provided as a guide only and has been prepared without taking into account your personal objectives and financial needs. You should consider any information on this form in light of your personal circumstances. You may wish to consult a licensed financial planner to do this.

The Commissioner of Superannuation and the Northern Territory of Australia accepts no responsibility for any losses arising from any use or reliance upon the information or conclusions reached using this information.