

Early Release of Superannuation Benefit on Permanent Incapacity Grounds

Who should use this form?

You should use this form if you have ceased employment, retained your benefit with NTGPASS, and wish to apply for early release of your preserved superannuation benefit component on permanent incapacity grounds.

Who is eligible?

Under Commonwealth Government legislative requirements, benefits generally must be retained in a superannuation fund until permanent retirement upon reaching preservation age (55-60 depending on date of birth). In limited circumstances, you can apply to the Commissioner of Superannuation to approve the early release of your superannuation benefit on permanent incapacity grounds.

Conditions of release

To be granted an early release of your retained superannuation benefit on permanent incapacity grounds, the Commissioner of Superannuation must be satisfied that:

- You have ceased gainful employment (i.e. working less than 10 hours each week); and
- You are unlikely, because of physical or mental ill-health, ever again to engage in gainful employment for which you are reasonably qualified by education, training, or experience.

Your application must be accompanied by written evidence as follows:

- A written report from your medical practitioner detailing your present condition and prognosis of your ability to ever again engage in gainful employment for which you are reasonably qualified by education, training, or experience.
- A written report from your specialist medical practitioner detailing your present condition and prognosis of your ability to ever again engage in gainful employment for which you are reasonable, qualified by education, training, and experience.
- Any other supporting documentation regarding your claim.

These reports must be dated within the last six months.

A notification that you have previously been granted a Centrelink disability or sickness benefit is not sufficient to assess your application and will not be accepted unless it is provided *in addition* to the medical reports as noted above.

Any costs associated with obtaining and submitting these reports, including any follow up reports, are the member's responsibility.

Temporary Incapacity

You are not eligible to apply for early release of your superannuation benefits if you are suffering from temporary incapacity. Temporary incapacity means that you have ceased to be gainfully employed due to ill-health (whether physical or mental) but your condition does not constitute permanent incapacity.

Terminal Illness

If you have been diagnosed with a terminal medical condition, your benefit can be paid to you tax-free. A terminal medical condition exists if:

- Two registered medical practitioners have certified jointly or separately that you are suffering from an illness or injury that is likely to result in your death within 12 months of the date of certification.
- at least one of the registered medical practitioners is a specialist practicing in an area related to the illness or injury, and
- The certification period has not ended for each of the certificates.

How much can I claim?

If you meet the criteria for early release on the grounds of total and permanent incapacity, you can have your entire benefit paid to you. Tax may be deducted from the amount released.

How do I apply?

Please complete the attached claim form forward it along with your supporting documentation to the NT Superannuation Office, GPO Box 4675, Darwin NT 0801.

We cannot process your application until we have received all the necessary documentation from you, including your identify certification documents. If you have any questions please call this office on (08) 8901 4200 or toll free on 1800 631 630.

Processing your benefit

In accordance with legislative requirements, if your application is approved, your benefit will be processed within 30 days of receipt of all required documentation. This includes your identification documents. However, where further information is required, or the form is incomplete the process may take longer.

Taxation

NTGPASS retained accounts comprise two taxation components; a tax free component and a taxable component. There are no tax concessions for payments made on permanent incapacity grounds. Please take this into account when requesting the amount you want paid to you.

Cash payments are proportioned between the tax components and the tax rates that apply are as follows:

Component	Tax Applicable ¹
Tax free	Exempt from tax
Taxable	
Under age 55	20% ²
Age 55-59	0% to \$165 000 15% ² over \$165 000
Over age 60	Tax free

¹ An additional Flood Levy applies to taxable income in 2011-12: 0.5% over \$50k; plus 1% over \$100k. Taxable components of lump sum withdrawals are considered income for this purpose.

² Plus Medicare levy (1.5%).

section of the form for both the current balance and all future contributions. For more information, please refer to the *member investment choice* fact sheet available on our website.

If you wish to roll over the remaining balance to an external superannuation fund, you must provide the fund details in section 4 of the form

More information

We can not provide personal financial advice. If you require assistance with member investment choice or taxation implications, you can seek the services of a qualified professional.

We have a range of information and fact sheets available to our members. For more information you can contact our office or visit our website.

Disclaimer

The information made available in this form is provided as a guide only and should not be relied upon for making financial commitments.

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

Identification requirements

Under Commonwealth Government legislation, you are required to provide proof of your identity by providing **original** or **certified copies** of identity documents that verify your full name, date of birth and current residential address, for example your driver's licence.

The NT Superannuation Office will only accept identity documents that are in accordance with the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism*

Financing Rules. For a list of other acceptable identity documents, please refer to our fact sheet *Proving Your Identity*, available from our website.

If you provide **certified copies** of identity documents, you must also get the authorised certifier to complete the form *Identity Certification*, available from our website, and return it to our office with your application

Retained accounts and rollovers

When we process your benefit, your retained account will be revalued using the current investment returns for your investment options. If you elect to retain the remaining balance within NTGPASS it will be invested in the investment option selected for your retained account in section 4 of the application form. You must complete the member investment choice

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Section 1 Personal details (to be completed in all cases)

Full Name			
Residential Address (Compulsory)			
Postal Address			
Phone		Mobile	
Member Number (AGS)		Email	
Tax File Number (TFN)		Date of Birth	

*Australian tax legislation requires you to provide your Tax File Number (TFN) to your superannuation fund, which will only be used for lawful purposes. If you have previously given your TFN to the NT Superannuation Office, you do not need to supply it again.

Section 2 Early release amount

Total amount of preserved funds you wish to have released under permanent incapacity grounds.	\$
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Section 3 Payment details

Your benefit will be paid (net of tax) to the following bank account:			
Name of Bank / Building Society / Credit Union			
BSB No.		Account No.	
Account Name(s)			

Section 4 Remaining balance of my preserved benefit (if any).

I wish to retain the remaining balance within NTGPASS (complete investment choice below)

Invest my **retained account** in the following investment option (circle one only):

Managed Cash	Conservative	Cautious	Growth	Assertive	Aggressive
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Invest my **future** contributions in the following investment option (circle one only):

Managed Cash	Conservative	Cautious	Growth	Assertive	Aggressive
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OR

I wish to rollover the remaining balance into another superannuation fund (complete information below)

Name of rollover fund			
Postal address of fund			
Australian Business Number (ABN)		Superannuation Product Identification Number (SPIN)	
Member number		Phone number of fund	

Section 5 Member checklist and declaration

I understand that the personal details requested on this form will only be used to process my request and to administer my NTGPASS membership.

I have attached two separate letters, one from a medical practitioner and one from a specialist.

I have provided the original or attached a certified copy of my identity document(s).

I am not currently employed on a full-time or part-time basis i.e. more than 10 hours a week.

I declare the statements contained in this declaration to be true in every particular.

MEMBER SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____