



Inside this edition:



Changes to Super Legislation

Staff changes

New options for 'retained' members from 1 May 2017

Investment returns for 2016/17

Are your contact details up to date?

We want to hear from you







Changes to Super Legislation

Here is an overview of the Government's super changes (most are effective from 1 July 2017). These changes are complex - we strongly encourage members to seek further financial advice on how the changes may affect their super.

WHAT IS THE CHANGE?	THIS AFFECTS YOU IF	WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?
LOW INCOME EARNERS Currently, low income earners can receive a Low Income Super Contribution of up to \$500 to offset the 15% tax payable on super contributions. From 1 July 2017, the rebate is maintained but is renamed the Low Income Superannuation Tax Offset (LISTO).	Your income is under \$37,000	No action. The ATO will refund the amount directly to your EISS account
SPOUSE CONTRIBUTIONS Currently, the tax offset for contributions to a spouse's super applies if a member's spouse earns less than \$10,800. From 1 July 2017, the limit on the spouse's income has been extended to \$40,000 (ie. a maximum tax offset of \$540 per year).	Your income or your spouse's income is under \$40,000	Consider opening (or paying more into) your spouse's super account Contact us about opening an EISS account for your spouse
Contribution Limits Currently, the annual limit on pre-tax (concessional) contributions is \$35,000 (or \$30,000 for members under 50). From 1 July 2017, the limit is reduced to \$25,000 per year for all members. Any contributions over \$25,000 will also count towards your non-concessional cap (below). Currently, the annual limit on post-tax (non-concessional) contributions is \$180,000 (or \$540,000 under the 'bring-forward rule'). From 1 July 2017, the limit is reduced to \$100,000 per year (or \$300,000 under the 'bring-forward rule'). Also, members who have super balances of over \$1.6m will have a zero limit.	You are paying high contributions (especially pre-tax) Excess pre-tax contributions are effectively treated as post-tax contributions plus an ATO charge for late payment of tax on this income	Monitor your contributions from 1 July 2017, contact EISS for information on your options if you think you need to change your contributions
'CATCH-UP' CONCESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS From 2018/19 onwards you can make 'catch up' pre-tax (concessional) contributions to the sum of your unused cap amounts on a rolling 5 year basis.	Your super benefit is under \$500,000 as at 1 July 2018	Monitor your pre-tax contributions after 1 July 2018 – either on the EISS website or call EISS
ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION TAX FOR HIGH INCOME EARNERS Currently, the threshold for payment of additional contributions tax (Division 293) is \$300,000. From 1 July 2017, this threshold has been reduced to \$250,000.	Your income + concessional contributions exceed \$250,000	EISS will provide further information to you about this change

Contacting the Scheme



STREET ADDRESS Level 1, 70 Pirie St Adelaide SA 5000 **POSTAL ADDRESS** GPO Box 4303, Melbourne VIC 3001

WHAT IS THE CHANGE?

THIS AFFECTS YOU IF ...

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

DEATH BENEFIT 'TOP-UP' PAYMENT

Currently, in the event of a member's death, EISS receives a tax deduction for the contributions tax paid by the deceased member. This amount is added as a 'top-up' to the benefit paid to eligible beneficiaries.

From 1 July 2017, the government has removed this tax deduction, and EISS members will see a reduction in their death benefit accordingly.

You are under age 60



Remember to keep your nominated beneficiaries up to date

No action. Death benefits for some members will be reduced accordingly from 1 July 2017.

TRANSITION TO RETIREMENT PENSION ACCOUNTS

Currently, there is no tax payable on investment earnings of Transition to Retirement Pension accounts. From 1 July 2017, this tax-exempt status will be removed, and investment earnings will be taxed at 15%.

In addition, members will no longer be allowed to treat certain superannuation income stream payments as lump sums for tax minimisation purposes.

You are receiving, or considering, a Transition to Retirement Pension No action. The crediting rates from 1 July 2017 will be the after tax returns.

LIFETIME (DIVISION 3) PENSIONS

Currently, lifetime pensions from an untaxed **source** are subject to income tax at marginal tax rates with a 10% tax offset after age 60. From 1 July 2017, pensions from an untaxed source above \$100,000 per year will have the 10% tax offset capped at \$10,000.

Currently, lifetime pensions from a taxed source are subject to income tax at varying rates depending on your preservation age, and are tax-free after age 60. From 1 July 2017, a lifetime pension from a taxed source above \$100,000 will have 50% of the excess over \$100,000 taxed at marginal tax rates

Your lifetime (Division 3) pension exceeds \$100,000

Speak to your adviser about whether to take your pension from a taxed or an untaxed source



Under current rules, **EISS** members can change the source of their pension at each 1 July

CAPS ON INCOME STREAM BALANCES (INCLUDING LIFETIME PENSIONS)

Currently, there is no limit to the amount which can be transferred or held in an Income Stream product. From 1 July 2017, only \$1.6m can be transferred into (or held in) an Income Stream product. Excess super can remain in an accumulation account where it will be subject to 15% tax on earnings.

Your total Income Stream balances exceed \$1.6 million

Transfer any excess balance over \$1.6m to an accumulation account (taxed at 15%) before 30 June 2017



Which may still be a lower rate of tax than non-super investments

GENERAL INQUIRIES 1300 307 844

TRUSTEE OFFICE (08) 8224 6400 FAX

(08) 8224 6499

inquiries@electricsuper.com.au

www.eiss.superfacts.com









Staff changes

The CEO and EISS Board welcome Melanie Muston as a new member of the Trustee Office team. Melanie has joined the team in the role of Member Services Officer. She will be working with members to help them understand their superannuation and to maximise retirement benefits. Melanie will be available for individual consultations on site or at the Trustee Office.

New options for 'retained' members from 1 May 2017

Members who leave their EISS employer after 1 May 2017 and retain their super in the Scheme have new options for insurance and contributions. Division 5 members under 60 who leave their benefits in the Scheme will automatically continue to have **insurance cover** provided under a unit-based policy. There must be sufficient monies in their retained account to cover the cost of insurance premiums. Division 2 and 4 members under 60 who leave their benefits in the Scheme may also apply to continue insurance cover (although some members may need to cover the cost of premiums with incoming contributions - see below). For further information, please refer to the flyer on our website or give our Helpline a call.

Retained members can already add post-tax contributions to their existing EISS benefit, but now EISS is also able to accept **contributions from other employers** (such as SG and salary sacrifice contributions) which will grow their EISS benefits.

Investment Returns for 2016/17

The latest investment returns can be found on the EISS website at www.eiss.superfacts.com. The returns for the financial year to the end of March 2017 (after tax and investment fees) were:

High Growth	10.86%
Balanced Growth	8.49%
Conservative Growth	5.14%
Cash	1.13%

If you want more information about the investment option you are in, please call the Scheme on **1300 307 844** and speak to an adviser. They can take you through the things that you should be thinking about when choosing an investment option.

Are your contact details up to date?

Make sure the Scheme has your correct contact details, so you receive all of your super information as quickly as possible. You can provide your home email address and mobile number too. Update your details online or call **1300 307 844.**

We want to hear from you

From the stories we hear, a lot of people ask payroll, or HR, or their mates about super. Why not call the people who run the EISS?

If you have a question on how your benefits work, or whether you can get paid while you're off crook, or whether changing your contributions will reduce your benefits, or anything like that, ring us on **08 8224 6400.**

If you want to update your address, or find out how to log on to the website, or be referred to a financial planner, ring the Helpline on **1300 307 844.**



WE'RE HERE TO HELP... CONTACT US!

For more details on the Scheme visit our website www.eiss.superfacts.com or contact the Scheme's Helpline by phone on 1300 307 844 (during weekdays from 8.30am to 5.30pm) or email on inquiries@electricsuper.com.au

Free financial advice over the phone

Ring the Scheme to get financial advice on:

- Contributing to super
- The right investment strategy for you
- The insurance needs of you and your family

This is at no cost to you, other than your time. Call **1300 307 844** during business hours.

Visit our website www.eiss.superfacts.com for information about the Scheme including:

- Details of how your benefits are calculated
- Investment strategies and choices available to you, include past investment returns
- Insurance benefits available to you
- Forms and publications
- Access to newsletters and annual reports

Login to your account and see your personal superannuation details:

- See your investment strategy
- Check your transactions and current benefits
- Check your level of death and disablement insurance
- Change your address and phone details
- Advise your Tax File Number
- Arrange for some financial advice
- Contributions paid during the year (including concessional contributions)

This newsletter has been prepared by Electricity Industry Superannuation Board ABN 57 923 283 236 as Trustee of the Electricity Industry Superannuation Scheme. This material includes general advice. The general advice had been prepared without taking into account your personal objectives, financial situation or needs. Therefore, before acting on this advice you should consider the appropriateness of the advice having regard to your personal objectives, financial situation and needs. You should also consult a licensed or appropriately authorised financial adviser before making any investment decision.

SuperRatings does not issue, sell, guarantee or underwrite this product. Go to www.superratings.com.au for details of its ratings criteria.

'MERCER' is a registered trademark of Mercer (Australia) Pty Ltd ABN 32 005 315 917. Copyright 2016 Mercer LLC. All rights reserved.

