

OCTOBER 2026

Pension**VIEWS**

Keeping members super informed



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STATE SUPER
SAS Trustee Corporation

Keeping you informed
on the latest news
and updates at
State Super



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STATE SUPER UPDATE

MEMBER SATISFACTION SURVEY - HAVE YOUR SAY

Our annual Member Satisfaction Survey is coming up. Our research company CSBA (Customer Service Benchmarking Australia) will be in touch with members by email and phone in the coming weeks to invite you to answer a questionnaire on how satisfied you are with State Super and our services.

Thanks to everyone who participated and provided feedback in last year's survey, which again gave us very positive results compared to the broader superannuation industry.

Last year our pension members rated us highest for Financial Planning **(8.8)**, Telephone Service **(8.7)**, and Seminars **(8.2)**. You also rated us highly for being a Fund they Trust **(9.0)**, Financial Returns **(8.4)** and Socially Responsible Investing **(8.2)**.

And once again it was our pension members who expressed the most satisfaction with State Super – rating us an **8.9 out of 10 on Overall Satisfaction**.

This annual research survey, together with comments and insights we receive from our members at Forums and our Annual Member Meeting, has become an integral part of our future planning and will help us to identify ways to improve our services to members.



8.9
Overall
Satisfaction



9.0
Fund they
Trust



8.7
Telephone
Service



8.4
Financial
Returns



Get in touch

We also welcome your feedback at any time via our online form at
www.statesuper.nsw.gov.au/contact-us

ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING 2026 – JOIN US!



We are again calling for members to come together at an online Annual Member Meeting this November.

State Super's leadership team, led by Chief Executive Officer, John Livanas, will provide detailed presentations to members on our investment performance, objectives and the outlook for the year ahead during the 1-hour meeting. You will also have an opportunity to submit questions in advance about the operation of the Fund.

Last year we were pleased to have nearly 300 members join us online to listen and participate in this important meeting. Our post-event survey showed most attendees felt

the meeting was worthwhile with **90% of respondents** saying they would be "very likely/likely" to attend again.

"Thank you for inviting me to participate. You have a very strong team, and I know the management of our superannuation is in very professional and caring hands. Many thanks."

Other positive comments included...

"The meeting increased my understanding of global, national and local economic circumstances and the challenges facing the fund. It was an hour well spent".

"Thoroughly enjoyable presentation. It instilled confidence in the management of State Super".

"I'm honoured to be a member of the State Super Fund. You do a great job for the members".

"The session was direct, informative and concise".

WHEN:

Date: Thursday
26 November 2026

Time: 10.30am – 11.30am
(AEDT time zone)

HOW TO REGISTER:

- If you've already provided us your email address, you'll automatically receive an invitation with the link to register.
- If you haven't previously provided us with your email, please visit <https://membermeeting.statesuper.registerevents.com.au>

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE
13 November 2026



STATE SUPER UPDATE

A NEW WAY TO EXPERIENCE AND ACCESS YOUR MEMBER INFORMATION



We will soon be launching a new secure website where you'll be able to keep track of your State Super benefits in the same way as before.

The website will allow you to view your benefit information on your computer, mobile or tablet. A new design will also make it easier to introduce enhanced features in the future.

Accessing your State Super account online will enable you to:

- update or change your contact details
- view and download your annual statements
- access an online benefit estimate (SASS members)
- request an online benefit estimate (SSS and PSS members)

Keeping you informed

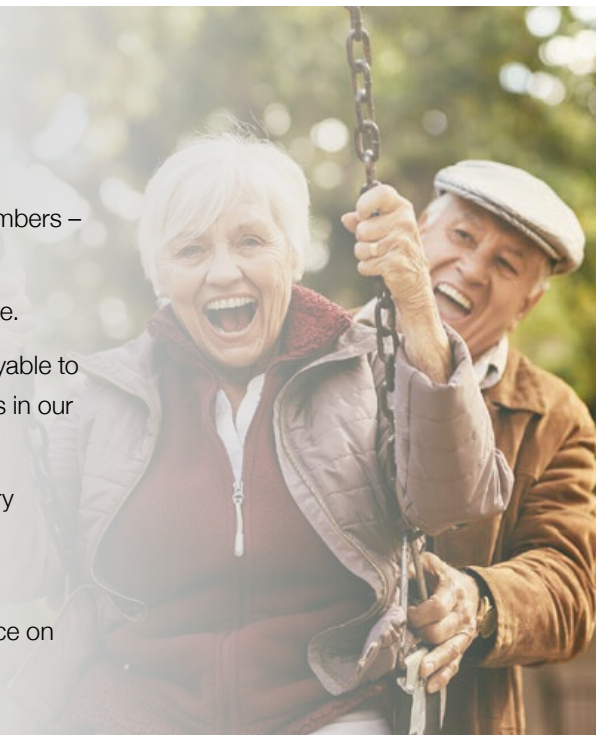
For now, you don't need to do anything new to access your information.

Over the coming weeks, we will keep you informed and provide easy-to-follow instructions, so you are ready when the new website is launched later this year.

DO YOU HAVE A SPOUSE?

Register their details with us.

- It's important for State Super to have up-to-date contact details for our members – particularly our Pension members.
- Contact details should also include details of a spouse, if a member has one.
- Many of our Pension members may be entitled to a reversionary benefit payable to eligible spouses when they pass away. Accurate spouse details can help us in our administration of these benefits in a more streamlined way.
- Read more about who is considered an eligible spouse for SSS reversionary pension benefits in our article on Page 09 or "Ask an Expert" question on Page 14.
- Get in touch to update your records by calling State Super Customer Service on **1300 652 113** or email enquiries@stc.nsw.gov.au



DIVISION 296 TAX: WHAT IT MEANS FOR MEMBERS

From 1 July 2026, a new tax known as Division 296 applies to people with large superannuation balances.

Most members will not be affected. However, if you have a large State Super benefit, or significant superannuation held in other funds, you may be affected.

Division 296 tax may apply if your total superannuation balance exceeds \$3 million. Earnings attributable to the portion of your balance between \$3 and \$10 million are taxed at 15%. A higher rate of 25% applies above \$10 million.

Key points

- Most members will not be affected.
- The ATO—not State Super—calculates the tax.
- Contributors and deferred members can generally defer tax on an inaccessible State Super defined benefit until it becomes payable.
- Pensioners generally need to pay any assessed Division 296 tax within 84 days.

What is my total superannuation balance?

Your total superannuation balance is the combined value of all your superannuation interests across all superannuation funds, not just your State Super benefit.

Because members are in defined benefit schemes rather than account-based funds, there is no simple account balance. Instead, the value of your defined benefit is determined using a valuation method prescribed by law.

How will my State Super benefit be valued?

Your benefit will be valued using the same method used when valuing benefits for family law purposes.

How are earnings calculated for Division 296?

For members of defined benefit schemes, earnings are based on the change in the value of the defined benefit over the financial year.

The increase is then adjusted by removing amounts that are not investment earnings, such as member and employer contributions. The remaining amount is multiplied by 0.825 to recognise that earnings have generally already been subject to the standard 15% superannuation tax.

Example

A member's benefit increases from \$3.2 million to \$3.5 million, an increase of \$300,000. After deducting \$50,000 in member and employer contributions, the adjusted increase is \$250,000.

Applying the defined benefit earnings factor of 0.825 results in Division 296 earnings of \$206,250.

How is the tax calculated?

The tax does not apply to all of your earnings - only to the proportion above the relevant threshold.

Using the same example, the total superannuation balance at the end of the financial year is \$3.5 million, and earnings are \$206,250.

Because \$500,000 of the member's balance is above the \$3 million threshold, 14.3% of the balance exceeds the threshold. Accordingly, 14.3% of the earnings (approximately \$29,464) are subject to Division 296 tax.

At a tax rate of 15%, the additional tax would be around \$4,420.

When is the tax payable?

If the tax relates only to your State Super defined benefit and you have not yet begun receiving that benefit (for example, you are still a contributor), you will generally not have to pay the tax immediately. Instead, the ATO will defer the amount and maintain a separate deferred debt account which will have interest applied (for more information refer to STC Fact Sheet 3: Taxation).

If you are already receiving a State Super pension, the tax will generally be payable within 84 days. The same applies to any Division 296 tax that relates to superannuation interests you hold in other funds.

Summary

Division 296 is now law. While it is unlikely to affect most members, State Super must report the value of members' defined benefit interests to the ATO.

If your total superannuation balance exceeds the relevant threshold, the ATO may assess you for Division 296 tax. Where the tax relates to a defined benefit that you cannot yet access, payment will generally be deferred until your benefit becomes payable.



INVESTMENT MARKET OVERVIEW



A CHALLENGING GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

The significant geopolitical challenges of the last couple of years have been compounded this year by the outbreak of hostilities between Iran and the USA. This posed a threat to world economic stability, with closures of the Strait of Hormuz representing the most significant risk due to its capacity to severely disrupt the global oil supply chain. Uncertainty lingers over whether it will escalate again or resolve and expectations on how economic conditions will be affected for the remainder of the year vary widely.

As one indication of just how diverse the economic outcomes may be, in the April edition of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) World Economic Outlook they have taken the unusual step of issuing a range of forecasts for annual GDP growth, rather than the usual practice of giving a single forecast. Their original forecast at the start of 2026 was global GDP growth of 3.1%. If the extent of the conflict remains reasonably constrained, they expect that this growth rate is still achievable. If matters take a turn for the worse once again, however, they have projected two alternative scenarios. The first of these, (termed an "adverse scenario"), is characterised by a longer duration of supply disruption causing a greater spike in energy prices, resulting in a lower GDP growth expectation of around 2.5%. If hostilities ramp up to an even greater extent resulting in further damage to energy infrastructure in the middle east, (termed a "severe scenario"), their projection is that GDP growth could drop as low as 2%.

The conflict has also put upward pressure on global inflation, as increased energy costs flow-through to

transport and manufacturing sectors. Similar to what they have done with their GDP predictions, the IMF have given a range of global inflation projections. If further long-term escalation is avoided, their forecast is 4.4%, but this increases to 5.4% under the "adverse scenario" and just over 6% under the "severe scenario".

These impacts on growth and inflation will be asymmetric across different nations and regions. Middle eastern countries close to the conflict and emerging and developing economies that rely heavily on commodity imports will fare substantially worse than advanced economies.

Countering the economic drag caused by the middle east conflict is the rapid development in artificial intelligence (AI) technology, infrastructure and adoption. This has been a significant driver of growth in GDP and business investment and holds considerable potential for boosting productivity in the future. Having said that, some reservations are being posed on whether the steep trajectory of AI investment and development is sustainable, due to the intense competition within the sector and questions on whether profitability outcomes will be able to meet earlier expectations.

The precarious global environment also underscores the need for governments and central banks to exercise discipline and decisiveness in their fiscal and monetary responsibilities. As we have seen during other recent global shocks, such as COVID-19, authorities can play a major role in building economic resilience and laying the foundation to allow recovery in economic activity.

Domestic news

Interest rates continue to be the focus domestically and we have already seen three rises this year. In February the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) increased the cash rate to 3.85%, in April it rose again to 4.10% and in May it reached 4.35%. Even prior to the Iran conflict, the RBA had identified that inflation was already too high and made clear their resolve to take whatever action is necessary to get it back into the 2–3% target range. This suggests that there may still be scope for more rate increases this year. If the desired effects of such increases materialise, this may allow scope for some interest rate relief in the course of 2027.

In relation to GDP, at the outset of 2026 both the RBA and the IMF had predicted a growth rate of 2.1% in Australia. This has now been revised down to 1.9%, as the impact of interest rate rises serves to cool the economy and as higher fuel prices slow down household consumption.

Another key concern recently expressed by the RBA is the sluggish growth in productivity in Australia, which is limiting the ability of the economy to grow without inflationary pressures. A report by The Centre for Future Work at the Australia Institute notes that Australia's labour productivity sits in 16th position out of the 38 OECD countries and sits in 29th position in relation to average productivity growth from 2013 to 2023. This certainly indicates there is room for improvement.

How are share markets faring?

Despite challenging economic conditions, equity markets have generally posted robust gains during the first half of the year. Although some of these gains have been partially reversed in recent months, overall market performance has generally remained positive on a year-to-date basis.

In the US the S&P 500 was up by almost 9% by mid-year, although it has been a bumpy ride since then. Strong revenue and earnings growth of US companies continue to be a positive influence on the share market, while oil price hikes and the spectre of inflation and interest rate rises are exerting downward pressure. The NASDAQ 100 index in the US was also powering ahead in the first six months of the year thanks to the AI wave, but this has since seen some correction and volatility, due to concerns over profitability and over-investment alluded to earlier in this report.

Some Asian equity markets, including Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, experienced even stronger gains through the first half of the year. Since then, however, these markets have retraced a portion of those gains, driven in part by growing investor concerns over AI-related valuations and the sustainability of the technology-led rally.

The FTSE 100 has reached record highs so far this year, although these gains could come under pressure if US interest rates rise, tightening global financial conditions and reducing investors' appetite for global equities.

In contrast, the Chinese Hang Seng and the Australian ASX200 index have both posted only modest gains year to date, reflecting weaker market sentiment. In China's case this has been on the back of significant drops in revenue and profits in some of the index's biggest companies, while in Australia the sluggishness has been attributed, in part, to a lack of exposure to the AI-driven boom.

Such pronounced short-term fluctuation in equity markets underscore the importance of remaining focused on long-term investment objectives and diversification of the investment portfolios across multiple geographies and types of assets.



Crediting rates for Member investment choice strategies to 30 June 2026

	1 year	2 year	3 year	5 year	10 year
Growth	8.9%	9.7%	9.5%	7.3%	7.8%
Balanced	7.0%	8.1%	8.2%	6.3%	6.3%
Conservative	5.2%	6.5%	6.7%	5.4%	5.0%
Cash	3.7%	4.0%	4.1%	3.0%	2.2%

Important: Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. The crediting rates shown have been rounded to one decimal point and are shown as an annual rate. Actual crediting rates are declared monthly to four decimal places. The annual rate is the compounded monthly rates.

PENSION PAYMENTS INCREASE UP TO 4.1%

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOUR PENSION?

Each year in October the amount of your State Super pension is adjusted to reflect the percentage movement in CPI from one June quarter to the next. This adjustment has most often historically resulted in an increase in your pension, but it can be decreased if the CPI adjustment is negative (however, there is a cap on negative CPI rates so if the negative adjustment is less than 1.1%, the pensions will not be adjusted for that year).

The legislation to index pensions to the CPI was introduced following a period of significant inflation in the 1970s.

The movement in the CPI (All Groups Sydney Index) from 30 June 2025 to 30 June 2026 was 4.1%. **Therefore, the adjustment rate for State Super pensions is 4.1% for this year.** State Super pensions will be adjusted from the first pension payday in October 2026, which is on Thursday 1 October this year. Pensions commencing during the first three quarters in the financial year receive a partial CPI adjustment, while no adjustment is made to pensions commencing in the final quarter.

Learn more about the Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Most of us understand the effects of inflation and how much more things



are costing us today compared to a year ago, but what does having a pension payment indexed in line with CPI really mean to you, and more specifically, in relation to your pension?

Simply defined, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures the change in the price of a fixed basket of goods and services purchased regularly by household consumers from one period to another – including housing, food, transport and energy costs. The CPI is Australia's official measure of inflation, and an increase in the CPI generally leads to an increase in pension payments to reflect the rising cost of living.

The CPI rate that is used to adjust your State Super pension each year is the All-Groups Sydney Index which simply means it is a CPI rate based on Sydney prices and includes all the categories in the standard basket.

This adjustment helps ensure the income you receive through your State Super pension increases at a similar rate to prices you are paying and helps to maintain your standard of living in retirement.



What's in a CPI basket?

The categories included in each of the All-Groups Indexes are:

- Health
- Transport
- Communication
- Recreation and culture
- Education
- Insurance and financial services
- Food and non-alcoholic beverages
- Alcohol and tobacco
- Clothing and footwear
- Housing
- Furnishings, household equipment and services



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOUR SPOUSE OR DE FACTO PARTNER

It's important to remember that in certain circumstances, a pension can be paid to a member's spouse or de facto partner after they die. This is known as a reversionary pension.

Once State Super becomes aware of a member's passing, pension payments will cease and the reversionary pension will be paid once the relevant documentation to confirm the applicant's eligibility is received. This process generally takes 6-8 weeks but may take longer if there is a delay in State Super receiving all the required documents. Please note: reversionary pensions are backdated to the date of death.

Spouse and de facto partner benefits

Upon a pension member's death, the spouse or de facto partner may be eligible for a reversionary pension.

- a) A spouse is the widow or widower of the deceased member.
- b) A de facto partner is a person (whether of the same or opposite sex): who was in a registered relationship or interstate registered relationship with the deceased within the meaning if the *Relationship Register Act 2010*, or
 - a) where there is a child born of the relationship who was wholly or substantially dependent on the member, or was born after the death of the member, or
 - b) where the member was receiving an invalidity pension and the relationship commenced before the member's normal retirement age and at least three years before the member's death.
- c) who was in a de facto relationship - within the meaning on the *Interpretation Act 1987* - with the deceased at the time of the deceased's death.

Generally, the spouse or de facto partner will qualify for a reversionary pension if they were the member's spouse or de facto partner before the member retired and remained so until the member's death. There are two exceptions to this rule:

The spouse or de facto partner of a State Superannuation Scheme (SSS) member who had commuted their entire pension to a lump sum is still eligible for a reversionary pension as long as the spouse or de facto partner eligibility rules are met. For more information, please refer to SSS Fact Sheet 11: *Death of a scheme member after retirement*.

The spouse or de facto partner of a Police Superannuation Scheme (PSS) member is not eligible for a

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOUR SPOUSE OR DE FACTO PARTNER - CONTINUED



reversionary pension where the PSS member had commuted their entire pension to a lump sum, or where the former member's death is a result of being hurt on duty, and the spouse or de facto partner chooses to be paid a lump sum gratuity instead of the pension. For more information, please refer to PSS Fact Sheet 6: *Death Benefit*.

A reversionary pension may be payable to the spouse or de facto partner of a State Authorities Superannuation Scheme (SASS) pensioner who was a former member of the NSW Retirement Fund, Local Government Pension Fund and Railways Superannuation Account. For more information, please refer to SASS Fact Sheet 8: *Death Benefits* and SASS Fact Sheet 12: *SASS Pension: Your Questions Answered*.

Amount of reversionary pension payable

The amount of pension payable to an eligible spouse or de facto partner depends on the rules of the scheme:

- SSS members: the reversionary pension is two-thirds of the pension benefits the SSS pension member was receiving at the time of death (or, would have been receiving if the member had not commuted some or all of their pension benefit).
- PSS members: the reversionary pension is 62.5% of the pension benefits the PSS pension member was receiving at the time of

death or, where the death is a result of being hurt on duty, 55% of the former member's salary at retirement, if this is a higher amount.

- SASS members: the reversionary pension is 62.5% of the pension benefits the member was receiving at the time of death.

Where more than one person applies for a reversionary pension following the death of a member, State Super will determine the distribution of the benefit among the applicants.

Commutation of pensions to a lump sum

PSS and SASS reversionary pensions **cannot** be exchanged (known as "commuted") to a lump sum.

A SSS reversionary pension generally can be exchanged for a lump sum, provided that the spouse or de facto partner makes the commutation election as follows:

- where the spouse or de facto partner is 55 years of age or older – within six months of the date of death of the pension member, or
- where the spouse or de facto partner is less than 55 years of age – within six months of the date of attaining age 55, or
- where a reversionary pension commenced before age 60 and the spouse or de facto partner has not previously made a commutation election – within six months of the date of attaining age 60.

Important note: Only one commutation election may be made. If a spouse or de facto partner becomes entitled to a SSS reversionary pension after age 60 and does not apply for a commutation within six months of the date of death of the pension member, there is no further opportunity to commute the reversionary pension.

CPI Adjustment

Reversionary pensions are adjusted each year in accordance with the CPI (All Groups -Sydney) from the first pay day in October each year. For further information, please refer to STC Fact Sheet 11: *CPI Adjustment of your pension*.

Some personal, practical tips

Have sensible discussions with your family

While discussing these matters with family members may be difficult, it is important that your family understands your financial situation, including your pension payments so that they can make informed decisions after your death.

Let your family members know what they need to do

It's also important your spouse, de facto partner or other family members know to contact State Super in the event of your death – this will prevent overpayments as well as speed up any reversionary pension payments or other benefits that may be payable to family members. As already noted, if a SSS reversionary pension is payable, your spouse or de facto partner will need to be aware of the time limits for commuting the pension to a lump sum.

Speak to a financial adviser if you require assistance

An Aware financial planner can assist you and your family with information and advice about your scheme's reversionary pension entitlements.

To arrange an appointment with an Aware financial planner, you can call them on 1800 841 633 or visit aware.com.au/statesuper

Documentation checklist

As part of the spouse or de facto partner benefit application process, State Super will request documents proving the marriage or de facto relationship existed at the time you retired and continued until your passing.

To simplify and streamline the process for determining reversionary pension entitlements upon your passing, State Super suggests that you prepare the following documents now:

For a spouse application:

- certified copy of the marriage certificate

For a de facto partner application (registered with The Registry of Birth, Deaths and Marriages prior to your pension commencement date):

- certified copy of relationship certificate

For a de facto partner application (not registered with The Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages prior to your pension commencement date):

- copies of financial documents in joint names. For example: bank accounts, loans etc
- copies of non-financial documents in joint names. For example: bills, utilities and council rates etc
- a statutory declaration or a letter from you confirming the de facto relationship and commencement date.

Please note that once State Super is notified of your passing, a letter will be sent to your spouse or de facto partner requesting the following documents, in addition to those listed above:

- certified copy of the death certificate
- certified copy of proof of identity for the applicant
- a de facto partner will also need to provide statutory declaration, along with family members, non-family members and businesspeople providing their knowledge of the de facto partner relationship (unless you have a relationship certificate issued prior to your pensions commencement date).

Child Pensions

In some circumstances, if a pension member dies and is survived by a child, the child may be entitled to a child pension if they are:

- under the age of 16 (SASS former Local Government Pension Fund members) or 18 (SSS or PSS); or
- under the age of 21 (PSS) or 25 (SASS or SSS) and undertaking approved full-time education.

For more information on Child Pensions, please refer to "Ask an Expert" Q&A on page 14 or call Customer Service on **1300 652 113**.



ASK AN EXPERT



QUESTION.

Q1 How does Centrelink assess your Age Pension - and what is the impact of your State Super pension?



If you're already retired, your Age Pension entitlement is not a fixed amount. It's calculated by Centrelink based on your financial situation—including your income, assets and the type of super pension you receive.

Understanding how your State Super pension is treated can help you better anticipate changes to your payments and avoid surprises.

How Centrelink works out your Age Pension

Once you reach age 67, you are eligible to apply for the Age Pension. Centrelink uses two financial tests to determine your eligibility and payment rate. If you're single your individual situation will be taken into account by Centrelink. If you're a couple, the combined situation will be considered, regardless of whether only one or both of you are eligible to apply for the Age Pension.

The financial tests are:

- The income test, which looks at the money you receive (or are deemed to earn), including super income streams and investments.
- The assets test, which looks at what you own, such as savings, investments and property (excluding your primary home that is less than 2 hectares on the same title).

Both tests are applied, and you are paid based on the lower result. This means even if your assets are relatively low, a higher level of income can still reduce your entitlement to the Age Pension.

What this means once you're retired

After reaching Age Pension age, your superannuation is generally taken into account in Centrelink means testing.

Your super may:

- contribute to your assets test (based on its value), and
- be assessed under the income test using deemed income based on the account balance.

However, defined benefit pensions—like most State Super pensions—are treated differently.

How your State Super pension is assessed

A State Super defined benefit pension is treated as a capped defined benefit income stream and assessed under the income test. Centrelink generally assesses your total annual pension, less the tax-free component, up to a maximum deduction of 10%. If your tax-free component is less than 10%, that lower percentage is used as the deductible amount.



For example, if your annual gross State Super pension is \$50,000 and your tax-free component is 24%, the maximum 10% deduction applies. This means \$5,000 is deducted from your gross pension. The amount counted under the income test would therefore be \$45,000. This is then added to your income from other sources to determine your Age Pension eligibility under the income test.

Your State Super pension is usually exempt from the assets test because it does not have an accessible lump sum value.

How other investment income is assessed

For financial assets such as shares, term deposits, managed funds and account based pensions commenced after 1 January 2015[^], Centrelink will deem these investments to earn a certain rate of income. Any actual income from these assets will be ignored. When it comes to investment properties and salary, Centrelink takes into account the actual income you've received.

Money you have in the accumulation phase of super is also subject to deeming but only when you reach age pension age. For a couple with a younger spouse that has not yet reached aged pension age, their balance in the accumulation phase of super will be excluded from the income and assets test.

[^] Some account-based pensions that commenced before 1 January 2015 may be "grandfathered" and exempt from deeming, with different income test rules applying.

Why this matters

Centrelink applies both the income and assets tests, and the lower result determines your entitlements.

Your State Super pension is not counted as an asset, which can be beneficial. However, it is mostly counted as income, which can reduce your entitlement.

Because your State Super pension is largely counted in the income test, it can be the main factor affecting your Age Pension entitlement.

Speak to someone about your situation

Managing your money and making decisions about your finances doesn't stop when you retire. Life events and financial changes can impact your Age Pension entitlements.

Centrelink rules can be complex, and your personal circumstances make a big difference to your outcome.

If you'd like tailored support, you can:

- Contact Services Australia's Financial Information Service (FIS) for general guidance.
- Speak with an Aware Super financial planner, who can help you understand how your State Super pension interacts with Centrelink and what it means for your retirement income.

Taking the time to understand your options and seeking guidance when needed can help you achieve better financial outcomes that align with your retirement goals.

ASK AN EXPERT - CONTINUED



QUESTION.

Q2 I'm on a SSS fortnightly pension and have heard that our pension continues to be paid to a spouse or child after we die. Can you confirm that my pension will pass to my daughter (as my wife died some years ago)? She is currently 48 years old.



Child pension eligibility (SSS)

A child pension is payable to a child who is:

- under 18, or
- under 25 if in approved full time education

Under SSS rules, an eligible child must also be:

- your child, or
- your spouse's child, provided the child:
 - was born or adopted before your death, and
 - was ordinarily part of your household at the time of your death

Please note: A pension may be paid to an eligible spouse or child after your death, even if you have fully commuted your SSS pension.

What this means for your situation

Because your daughter is 48 years old, she does not meet the eligibility criteria for a child pension.

If you do not have an eligible spouse or child at the time of your passing, payments made to you (including commutations and pension payments) are compared against your withdrawal benefit, which is the amount that would have been payable had you exited the scheme instead of retiring.

- If the total paid to you at the time of your passing is less than your withdrawal benefit, the difference is normally paid to your executor or legal personal representative.
- As a general rule, once you have been receiving your pension for **10 years or more**, you will usually have exceeded your withdrawal benefit, meaning **no further benefits will be payable upon your passing**.

For more detail, see:

- SSS Fact Sheet 11: *Death of a Scheme Member after Retirement*
- SSS Fact Sheet 12: *Child Pensions*

Other schemes

- SASS members who transferred from the Local Government Pension Fund may have a child pension payable. An eligible child receives a pension until age 16, or 25 if in approved full-time study (see SASS Fact Sheet 12).
- PSS Hurt on Duty (HOD) members may have a child pension payable if the Commissioner of Police determines the death was caused by HOD infirmities. An eligible child receives a pension until age 18, or 21 if in approved full time education (see PSS Fact Sheet 6).

CPI Adjustment

- SSS and SASS child pensions are indexed annually in October using CPI (All Groups – Sydney). See STC Fact Sheet 11 for CPI details.
- PSS child pensions are not CPI indexed; they are paid at rates determined under the Workers Compensation Act 1987.



Contact

If you have further questions, Customer Service is available on **1300 652 113**.

Make the most of your retirement income

Managing your money doesn't stop when you retire. Many retirees continue to work with a financial planner to help them make informed decisions and stay on track.

Life's full of twists and turns and your circumstances can change, including your health, family situation, your spending needs or age pension entitlements.

An Aware Super financial planner can:

- help you navigate changes to your financial circumstances with confidence
- provide advice and guidance on money both inside and outside of super.

Our experts provide advice on products and strategies to help you make the most of your money in retirement and feel confident about the years ahead.

Call Aware Super on 1800 841 633 to book an appointment.



Scan here or visit
**[aware.com.au/
statesuperadvice](https://aware.com.au/statesuperadvice)**



YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS

MEMBER SERVICE APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Member Service appointments using the Zoom video call platform are available 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

State Super's free appointment service is available to all pension members.

One of our friendly and knowledgeable Customer Service team will meet with you via a face-to-face video call. They can assist with general information about your scheme, superannuation rules, even completing administrative forms or other paperwork. Easy-to-follow instructions will be supplied to help you join your video interview.

If you prefer, we also have a limited number of in-person appointments available at our Sydney CBD or Wollongong offices. If you need documents signed or certified please visit us in person so we can assist.

Call to make an appointment - 1300 652 113

Of course, you can contact us by phone for assistance any time during business hours.

There is also a wide range of information available on our website. Details about the rules, benefit entitlements and membership conditions of each of the State Super schemes are provided in a series of fact sheets.

To download a form or fact sheet, go to your scheme at **statesuper.nsw.gov.au** and search for the name or document number or scroll through your scheme's documents to find what you need.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS



Do we have your current contact details including email? So we can communicate important information regarding your benefit and keep you abreast of any changes that could affect you, it is important that we have your current contact details. Many of our members now also prefer to receive information via email. Please make sure we have your up-to-date email address, so we can keep in touch.

How to update your contact details:

- › **Call** State Super Customer Service on **1300 652 113**.
- › **Complete** STC Form 207 (available on our website) and mail it to us.
- › **Log in** to your online member account via our website.

GET IN TOUCH



1300 652 113



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