Adding a little extra to your super now, can make a big difference in the future. For most Australians, relying solely on employer contributions may afford you a fairly modest lifestyle in retirement\(^1\). By adding extra to your super now, you can close the gap in your retirement savings and enjoy a more comfortable retirement.

**Modest vs comfortable retirement**

It’s important to understand the difference between ‘comfortable’ and ‘modest’ when planning for your retirement. A comfortable retirement means being able to afford private health insurance, internet at home, running your car and a few luxuries like dining out. A modest retirement would mean having to reduce your current standard of living. ASFA has produced the below table\(^2\) for retirees aged around 65, showing the expected lifestyles for a comfortable retirement, modest retirement and retirement relying on the Age Pension alone.

Please note: this table is current as at March 2019. These figures are reviewed quarterly, to adjust for increases such as utility bills, food and lifestyle expectations. To view ASFA’s most recent ‘Retirement Standard’, visit superannuation.asn.au/resources/retirement-standard.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comfortable retirement(^3)</th>
<th>Modest retirement(^3)</th>
<th>Age Pension (^4)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Single</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$43,255 a year</td>
<td>$27,646 a year</td>
<td>$21,933.60 a year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Couple</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$61,061 a year</td>
<td>$39,848 a year</td>
<td>$33,066.80 a year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replace kitchen and bathroom over 20 years</td>
<td>No budget for home improvements. Can do repairs, but can’t replace kitchen or bathroom</td>
<td>No budget to fix home problems like a leaky roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better quality and larger number of household items and appliances and higher cost hairdressing</td>
<td>Limited number of household items and appliances and budget haircuts</td>
<td>Less frequent hair cuts or getting a friend to cut your hair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can run air conditioning</td>
<td>Need to watch utility costs</td>
<td>Less heating in winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restaurant dining, good range &amp; quality of food</td>
<td>Take out and occasional cheap restaurants</td>
<td>Only club special meals or inexpensive takeaway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fast internet connection, big data allowance and large talk and text allowance</td>
<td>Limited talk and text, modest internet data allowance</td>
<td>Very basic phone and internet package</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good clothes</td>
<td>Reasonable clothes</td>
<td>Basic clothes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic and occasional overseas holidays</td>
<td>One holiday in Australia or a few short breaks</td>
<td>Even shorter breaks or day trips in your own city</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top level private health insurance</td>
<td>Basic private health insurance, limited gap payments</td>
<td>No private health insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owning a reasonable car</td>
<td>Owning a cheaper more basic car</td>
<td>No car or, if you have a car, it will be a struggle to afford repairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take part in a range of regular leisure activities</td>
<td>One leisure activity infrequently, some trips to the cinema or the like</td>
<td>Only taking part in no cost or very low cost leisure activities. Rare trips to the cinema</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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\(^1\) Association of Superannuation Funds of Australia, Retirement Standard, March quarter 2019.


\(^3\) Both budgets assume that retirees own their own home outright and are relatively healthy.

\(^4\) Base rate before payment of supplements.
Personal contributions

Personal contributions are the contributions that you choose to make, in addition to the contributions made by your employer. By regularly making extra contributions, you are more likely to be able to afford a comfortable lifestyle in retirement. There are two types of personal contributions, before-tax (concessional) and after-tax (non-concessional).

Before-tax contributions

You can make extra contributions to your super from your before-tax income. This is commonly referred to as salary sacrificing. The money you ‘sacrifice’ is deducted directly from your salary into your super account before you pay income tax. These extra contributions reduce your taxable income, which means you pay less income tax and could even place your salary into a lower tax bracket.

For more information, read the ‘Salary sacrifice’ fact sheet relevant to your scheme, available at gesb.wa.gov.au/factsheets.

How to make a before-tax contribution

Complete the attached ‘Payroll deduction’ form and give it to your payroll department at work.

Contributions will be deducted from your pay and will be reported on your annual PAYG payment summary as reportable employer super contributions. You can adjust the amount or even stop payments at any time if your circumstances change, just let your employer know.

Generally, before–tax contributions can only be made to the scheme by current WA public sector employees.

After-tax contributions

You can make contributions to your super account from your after-tax income (take-home pay). These after-tax contributions can be small, regular amounts or larger one-off payments, such as money from an inheritance, lotto winnings or proceeds of asset sales.

Making after-tax contributions can be a good option if you are eligible to receive a Super Co-contribution from the government. For more information, read the ‘Commonwealth Government Super Co-contribution’ fact sheet, available at gesb.wa.gov.au/factsheets.

For more information read the ‘Contributing to your super’ brochure, available at gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures.

How to make an after-tax contribution

• Complete the attached ‘Payroll deduction’ form and select the after-tax option at Step 2. Provide the completed form to your payroll department at work, and they will redirect your chosen amount from your pay to your super account instead
• Do-it-yourself
  If you’d like to organise an after-tax contribution by yourself, you have two options:
  1. BPAY® – make contributions of $20 or more directly from your bank account using BPay. To find your unique reference details for the transaction, log in to Member Online and follow the links. There is no need to fill out a form.
  2. Send a cheque or money order – fill out the attached ‘Super contributions’ form, and send it to us along with your cheque or money order.

You can use the ‘Retirement planning calculator’ at gesb.wa.gov.au/calculators to see the impact making additional contributions may have on your super.

Other things you need to know about super contributions

Contribution caps

Limits apply to contributions to super. For more information, read the ‘Contributing to your super’ brochure available at gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures.

Tax file number

Without your tax file number (TFN), we may not be able to accept your contributions and you may have to pay more tax on your super than is necessary.

If you have not provided us with your TFN, log in to Member Online or call your Member Services Centre on 13 43 72 for a form.
Fees
There are no fees for making contributions.

Investing your contributions
Your contributions will be invested in the investment plan you have already chosen. If you haven’t previously selected an investment plan, all your money will be invested in your scheme’s default plan.

You can change your investment plan at any time by using Member Online or completing the relevant ‘Investment choice’ form, available at gesb.wa.gov.au/forms.

To find out more information on the investment options available to you, read the ‘Investment choice’ brochure and the relevant ‘Product Information Booklet’, available at gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures.

West State Super members
Please note: due to Federal Government changes to the rules relating to super, members will no longer be allowed to claim a tax deduction for personal contributions received after 30 June 2017 to a West State Super account.

If you joined West State Super before 30 June 2001 and plan on making personal contributions, contact your Member Services Centre on 13 43 72 to check if your guaranteed benefit exceeds your current account balance. Your overall benefit may be adversely affected in some circumstances.

Gold State Super and Pension Scheme members
Your contributions will be invested in your existing GESB Super or West State Super account. If you don’t have one of these accounts, a GESB Super account will be opened for you when we receive your contribution.

Work test exemption
If you are aged 65 to 74, you normally need to meet the work test in order to make contributions to your super. From 1 July 2019, members aged 65 to 74 can rely on a work test exemption if their total superannuation balance was below $300,000 at the end of the previous financial year. This exemption provides you with an additional year to make personal contributions from the end of the financial year in which you last met the work test.

First Home Super Saver scheme (GESB Super members only)
The First Home Super Saver (FHSS) scheme was announced in the May 2017 Federal Budget, as an initiative by the Commonwealth Government to help Australians aged 18 years or older, save for their first home.

From 1 July 2018, if you are a GESB Super member and meet certain eligibility requirements, you can apply to withdraw voluntary contributions made after 1 July 2017 (and the associated earnings) to use towards the purchase or construction of your first home.

This includes personal concessional and non-concessional contributions you have made.

As West State Super and Gold State Super are constitutionally protected funds, contributions made to these schemes are not eligible for the FHSS scheme.

The FHSS scheme is administered by the Australian Tax Office (ATO) who will assess your eligibility for the scheme. You can apply to access the FHSS scheme using your myGov account.

For more information on applying for this scheme, or for information on the rules around applying, visit the ATO’s website at ato.gov.au.

Downsizing contributions
The ‘Contributing the proceeds of downsizing into superannuation’ (downsizing) measure was announced in the May 2017 Federal Budget as one of the reforms introduced by the Australian Government to reduce pressure on housing affordability in Australia.

From 1 July 2018, if you’re age 65 or over and meet certain eligibility requirements, you can contribute up to $300,000 from the sale of your family home into your super account.

This contribution doesn’t count towards your contribution caps and you also won’t be required to satisfy the work test that is normally required for people aged 65 and over, who are contributing to their super.

You may be eligible to contribute up to $300,000 as an individual, or up to $600,000 as a couple (if both parties in the couple had an ownership interest in the home).

GESB Super and West State Super can both receive these contributions.

Additional rules apply to the downsizing measures, for more information, please visit the ATO’s website at ato.gov.au.

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5 If you lost ownership of your first home due to financial hardship you may be able to apply to the ATO to use the FHSS scheme to help you purchase or construct a home which is not your first home. See the ATO website at ato.gov.au for details.
Disclaimer: the information contained in this fact sheet is of a general nature, and does not constitute legal, taxation or personal financial advice. In providing this information, we have not taken into account your investment objectives, financial situation or needs. We are not licensed to provide financial product advice. Before acting or relying on any of the information in this document, you should read this fact sheet in conjunction with the relevant Product Information Booklet and disclosure documents at gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures, and consider whether the information is appropriate for you. You may also wish to consult a suitably qualified adviser to assist you.
Super contributions
Top up your super with after-tax personal contributions

Use this form to make an after-tax personal contribution by cheque or money order.

If you intend to claim a tax deduction for these contributions, do not complete this form. You should instead complete the 'Notice of intent to claim or vary a tax deduction' form, available from gesb.wa.gov.au/forms or by calling your Member Services Centre on 13 43 72.

To make Downsizer contributions, visit the ATO’s website at ato.gov.au for a copy of their ‘Downsizer contribution into super’ form.

Please note: due to Federal Government changes to the rules relating to super, members will no longer be allowed to claim a tax deduction for personal contributions received after 30 June 2017 to a West State Super account.

Step 1 Your details

GESB member number

Mr  Mrs  Miss  Ms  Other

Surname (family name)

Given name(s)

Date of birth / / Male  Female

Postal address

Postcode

Email address

Telephone – home  Telephone – work ( )  ( )

Telephone – mobile

Step 2 Tax file number (TFN)

If you have not already provided your TFN to us, log in to Member Online or call your Member Services Centre 13 43 72 for a form. If we do not have your TFN we will not be able to accept your after-tax contributions.

Step 3 Nominate your account

✓ the account where you would like your contribution deposited into.

GESB Super  West State Super

If you're a Gold State Super member and do not have an existing West State Super or GESB Super account, a GESB Super account will be opened for you.

Refer to the ‘Contributing to your super’ brochure for more information, available from gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures.

Step 4 Attach your cheque or money order

I would like to make an after-tax contribution via cheque or money order for $ amount.

A cheque or money order payable to GESB must accompany this form.

Step 5 Eligibility to contribute

To be able to make contributions, you must meet one of the eligibility criteria under super laws. To confirm that you are eligible to contribute, please select one option below that describes your circumstances. Please tick only one option to confirm eligibility.

I am under the age of 65

I am age 65 or over but not age 75, and I have worked at least 40 hours in a period of 30 consecutive days in the current financial year

I declare that I am exempt from the work test as I meet the conditions:

• I am aged between 65-74 years

• I have met the work test in the previous financial year

• I had a total superannuation balance of less than $300,000 at the end of the previous financial year, and

• I haven’t previously relied on the work test exemption to make contributions

If you wish to use the Downsizer measures to make a contribution into superannuation please use the Downsizer contributions form available from the ATO website: ato.gov.au.

Note: we have a privacy statement that explains how we handle private information about individuals responsibly. Our privacy statement is available on our website at gesb.wa.gov.au, or can be obtained by contacting your Member Services Centre on 13 43 72.
Step 6  
Declaration and signature

When making my contributions and in signing this form, I confirm that:

• I understand that the contribution will be allocated to my eligible GESB account and invested in my nominated investment plan. If I have not nominated an investment plan, my contribution will be invested in the default investment plan for my scheme.

• I have read the relevant 'Product Information Booklet' and the 'Super contributions' fact sheet and I understand that they contain general information only and do not take into account my investment objectives, financial situation or needs.

• I understand that any contributions are subject to rules and conditions of release, including preservation standards (see the relevant 'Product Information Booklet').

Your signature  
Date

Send your completed form and cheque or money order to:
GESB
PO Box J 755
Perth WA 6842
Payroll deduction
West State Super and GESB Super

Use this form to make contributions to your super through your payroll. Complete the form and give it to your payroll department at work.

Step 1  Your details
Surname (family name)

Given name(s)

Date of birth / / 
Payroll number (if known)

Step 2  Contribution amount from your pay
Before-tax (Salary sacrifice) $  OR  % each pay

AND/OR

After-tax $  OR  % each pay

Check with your employer’s payroll office to ensure you are able to select a percentage.

Step 3  Nominate your account
✓ the account where you would like your contribution deposited into.

GESB Super  West State Super

If you are a Gold State Super member and do not have an existing West State Super or GESB Super account, a GESB Super account will be opened for you.

Step 4  Eligibility to contribute
To be able to make contributions, you must meet one of the eligibility criteria under super laws. To confirm that you are eligible to contribute, please select one option below that describes your circumstances. Please tick only one option to confirm eligibility.

☐ I am under the age of 65

☐ I am age 65 or over but not age 75, and I have worked at least 40 hours in a period of 30 consecutive days in the current financial year

☐ I declare that I am exempt from the work test as I meet the conditions:
  • I am aged between 65-74 years
  • I have met the work test in the previous financial year
  • I had a total superannuation balance of less than $300,000 at the end of the previous financial year, and
  • I haven’t previously relied on the work test exemption to make contributions

Step 5  Declaration and signature
• I understand the conditions that apply to contributions to my super account
• I am currently employed in the WA public sector
• I have received financial advice on my proposed salary packaging arrangements if I have chosen to salary sacrifice more than 50% of my total employment cost to super

Your signature

Date / / 

Step 6  Give this form to employer’s payroll office
We are unable to process this form for you.

Important
Refer to the ‘Contributing to your super’ brochure for more information, available from gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures.

1 Your total employment cost is made up of your base salary, other cash allowances, non cash benefits, any fringe benefits tax liabilities currently paid by your employer and any variable components. You should talk to your employer if you need to confirm the value of your total employment cost.

Disclaimer: the information contained in this form is of a general nature, and does not constitute legal, taxation or personal financial advice. In providing this information, we have not taken into account your investment objectives, financial situation or needs. We are not licensed to provide financial product advice. Before acting or relying on any of the information in this form, you should read this form in conjunction with the relevant Product Information Booklet and disclosure documents at gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures, and consider whether the information is appropriate for you. You may also wish to consult a suitably qualified adviser to assist you.

How to contact us
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F 1800 300 067
W gesb.wa.gov.au
PO Box J 755, Perth WA 6842

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