

### What GESB scheme am I in?

You may have one or more super schemes with us, depending on when you joined the WA public sector. Generally, if you joined for the first time after April 2007, you'll be a GESB Super member. Otherwise, it's likely you'll have a West State Super account. To be a Gold State Super member, you would have had to complete an application prior to December 1995.

If you're not sure which scheme you're in, the best way to find out is to check your last Member Statement. You can also call your Member Services Centre on 13 43 72, if you're still unsure.

### GESB Super

The GESB Super scheme opened in April 2007 and is the default scheme for all new WA public sector employees.

GESB Super is a taxed scheme like most other super schemes. This means before-tax super contributions (such as employer or salary sacrifice contributions) are taxed at 15% when the contribution is made.

Investment earnings are also taxed at a maximum of 15% in the year in which they're earned. There are strict limits to the amount you can contribute to any taxed scheme each year.

When your super benefit is payable, the amount you receive depends on the amount of contributions that have been made and investment returns earned – less any withdrawals, fees, taxes and insurance premiums paid along the way.

For more information on GESB Super, see the '**GESB Super Product Information Booklet**', available at [gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures](http://gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures)

### West State Super

West State Super was the default scheme for WA public sector employees until it was closed to new members in April 2007. Existing West State Super accounts continue to operate as normal.

Unlike most schemes, West State Super is an untaxed scheme, meaning before-tax super contributions (such as employer or salary sacrifice contributions) and investment earnings are not taxed when they are made, but when your benefit is paid to you. There are no limits on the amount of before-tax contributions you can make to an untaxed scheme each year i.e. you can salary sacrifice up to 100% of your salary every year. However, there is an untaxed plan cap of \$1.445 million (for the 2017/18 financial year, indexed annually). Note that such before-tax contributions count towards the concessional contributions cap for taxed schemes.

For more information, read the '**Tax and super**' brochure, available at [gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures](http://gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures)

When your super benefit is payable, the amount you receive depends on the amount of contributions that have been made and investment returns earned – less any withdrawals,

fees, and insurance premiums paid along the way. Tax is payable when you withdraw from the scheme.

For more information on West State Super, see the '**West State Super Product Information Booklet**', available at [gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures](http://gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures)

### Gold State Super

Gold State Super was closed to new members on 29 December 1995. Existing Gold State Super accounts continue to operate as normal. You may also have a West State Super or a GESB Super account - see opposite for those account features.

Gold State Super is a defined benefit scheme, which means your final Gold State Super benefit is determined by applying a fixed, or 'defined', formula. It's calculated using your Final Remuneration, your months of Equivalent Full-Time Contributory Service and your Average Contribution Rate. With Gold State Super, your benefit grows with your salary and service, and is guaranteed by the WA State Government. Unlike West State Super and GESB Super, Gold State Super is not linked to investment markets, as it is the formula that defines the amount payable upon retirement after age 55.

Gold State Super is also a contributory scheme, meaning you contribute up to an Average Contribution Rate (ACR) of 5% of your gross wage. You can opt to salary package these contributions or keep them as after-tax contributions.

For more information on Gold State Super, see the '**Gold State Super essentials**' brochure, available at [gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures](http://gesb.wa.gov.au/brochures)

Both GESB Super and West State Super are accumulation schemes. This means your super account balance builds up over time from your employer's contributions, your own personal contributions, any super that you roll over from other schemes, as well as from investment earnings. Fees and insurance premiums are deducted from your super account on a monthly basis and your account balance is adjusted accordingly.