

COVID-19

A summary of the changes to Australian superannuation announced by the Federal Government today as part of its economic response to COVID-19.

Temporary early release of superannuation

From mid-April, individuals affected by COVID-19 will be able to apply for early release of their superannuation. Eligible individuals will be able to access up to \$10,000 of their superannuation in FY20 and a further \$10,000 in FY21.

To be eligible, individuals must satisfy one or more of the following criteria:

- be unemployed; or
- be eligible to receive a job seeker payment, youth allowance for jobseekers, parenting payment (which includes the single and partnered payments), special benefit or farm household allowance; or
- on or after 1 January 2020:
 - have been made redundant; or
 - had their working hours reduced by 20 per cent or more; or
 - if they are a sole trader — their business was suspended or there was a reduction in their turnover of 20 per cent or more.

Note: People accessing their superannuation through this early release mechanism will not need to pay tax on amounts released and the money they withdraw will not affect Centrelink or Veterans' Affairs payments.

Eligible individuals will apply for the new grant of early release, directly to the ATO through the myGov website:

www.my.gov.au and will be required to certify that they meet the eligibility criteria.

Upon processing of an application, the ATO will issue the individual with a determination and provide a copy of the determination to the individual's superannuation fund advising them to release the superannuation payment.

While superannuation funds will make the payment based on the determination provided by the ATO, eligible individuals are encouraged to contact their superannuation fund directly to ensure their contact and bank account details and proof of identity documents are up to date.

Super made easy.

Contact our Member Service Team on 1800 022 067.

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