Super strategies

Boost your spouse's super and reduce your tax

Making an after-tax contribution into your spouse's super could benefit you both – by increasing your spouse's super and potentially reducing your tax.

How does the strategy work?

If you make an after-tax contribution into your spouse's super account and they earn less than $40,000 in FY 2022/23, you may be eligible for a tax offset of up to $540.

This strategy could be a great way to grow your super as a couple. Not only could you boost your spouse's super, the tax offset could help reduce your income tax.

To qualify for the full offset of $540 in FY 2022/23, you need to contribute $3,000 or more into your spouse's super (which counts towards the spouse's contribution caps) and your spouse must earn[1] $37,000 or less in FY 2022/23.

A lower tax offset may be available if you contribute less than $3,000 or your spouse earns more than $37,000 but less than $40,000 in FY 2022/23.

Can you make spouse contributions?

To be able to make a spouse contribution, you must be either legally married or in a de facto relationship.

You need to be living together on a permanent basis. If you are a married couple living separately, you won't qualify.

You and your spouse/partner must be Australian residents at the time the contribution is made.

Seek advice

Your financial adviser can help you determine if you should make spouse contributions and whether it suits your needs and circumstances.

Other key considerations

- To use this strategy, the spouse who receives the contribution must:
  - be under age 75[2]
  - have a 'total super balance' of less than $1.7 million on 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - not exceed their 'non-concessional contribution cap', which in 2022/23 is $110,000, or up to $330,000 in certain circumstances.
- Super can't be accessed until you meet a 'condition of release'. For more information, please visit the ATO website at **ato.gov.au**.
- There are some other super strategies that may benefit you as a couple (see back page).

[1] Includes assessable income, reportable fringe benefits and reportable employer super contributions. Excludes assessable First Home Super Saver Scheme amounts.

[2] Contributions must be received no later than 28 days after the month in which the your spouse turns age 75.

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