

Transition to Retirement Income fact sheet

What is a Transition to Retirement Income account?

A Transition to Retirement Income account is available to members who have reached the preservation age, and are still working either full or part time.

This account differs from a Retirement Income account in that:

- Annual payments must be a minimum of 4% of the account balance and no more than 10%, and
- Lump sum withdrawals are not permitted.

What are the tax benefits?

For people aged 60 or over, income payments are tax free.

For people under the age of 60, a portion of the payment will be subject to income tax but it will be eligible for a 15% tax offset. You should contact your super fund or financial planner to find out what portion of your account is subject to income tax.

Investment earnings in a Transition to Retirement Income account are generally taxed at 15%.

How is my income calculated?

You can choose how much income you receive from your Retirement Income account at the start and change it at any time. However, the total income you receive each year must be between a minimum of 4% and a maximum of 10% of your account balance.

Is my account balance or income guaranteed?

Although Transition to Retirement Income accounts allow you to select the amount and frequency of your income payments and how your money is invested, they do not guarantee your balance or the income level – these will vary with investment performance.

How long will my account balance money last?

This depends on a number of factors including:

- the amount you originally invest
- the amount of income you decide to receive each year
- how your chosen investment options perform, and
- the amount of fees deducted.

Can I withdraw my entire account balance?

No, Transition to Retirement Income accounts are 'non-commutable' which means you cannot access the funds in the form of a lump sum (unless you have an unrestricted non-preserved component). However, once you satisfy a condition of release, your account will revert to a Retirement Income account which means you will have access to your full account balance, including making lump sum withdrawals at your discretion (refer to our Retirement Income account factsheet for more information).

What happens when I pass away?

Upon your death, the entire balance in your account will be paid out. You can make a nomination that will determine how your beneficiaries receive the balance of your account, and in what proportion. The options that are available include:

- Nominating a reversionary beneficiary, such as a spouse, who will continue to receive income payments after you pass away, or
- Making a binding death benefit nomination to the person(s) you want your benefit to be paid to. Making a non-binding death benefit nomination to the person(s) you want your benefit to be paid to but at the discretion of the trustee.

Nominating your spouse as a reversionary beneficiary means that if you pass away with money in your account, your spouse will continue to receive your income payments, as long as he or she is your spouse at the time of your death.

If you do not provide any details the death benefit will generally form part of your estate.

Please note that there may be tax implications depending on who the beneficiaries are.

Transferring to a Retirement Income account

If you have a Transition to Retirement Income account and satisfy a condition of release, your account can be transferred to a Retirement Income account where tax on investment earnings is 0% (nil), and there are no restrictions on lump sum withdrawals.

To satisfy a condition of release, you must:

- be permanently retired (i.e. working less than 10 hours per week) on or after your Preservation Age, or
- have ceased work with an employer (e.g. changed jobs) after age 60, or
- have reached age 65*.

*Your account will automatically revert to a Retirement Income account once you turn 65

For more information on Transition to Retirement Income accounts and strategies please refer to our website equipsuper.com.au or our online education modules equipsuper.money101.com.au

Contact our Helpline **1800 682 626** | Visit our website equipsuper.com.au | Mail: **Equip Super, GPO Box 4303, Melbourne VIC 3001**

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