

KnowHow

How to monitor carried forward concessional contributions

14 March 2024

You may be eligible to make concessional contributions that are greater than the annual cap if you haven't fully used your concessional cap in an earlier year. This could help you to save even more for retirement, while also managing tax.

What are concessional contributions?

There are a number of ways you can contribute to superannuation. Depending on certain factors, contributions may be categorised as concessional or non-concessional. There are also other types of contributions that are not considered to be either concessional or non-concessional. Concessional contributions (CCs) commonly include:

- contributions made for you by your employer
- salary sacrifice contributions, and
- personal contributions that you claim as a personal tax deduction.

CCs (within your cap – see below) are taxed at the concessional rate of up to 15% (or up to 30% if your income¹ from certain sources exceeds \$250,000) within your super fund. However, additional tax and penalties may apply for contributions made in excess of your cap. Non-concessional contributions include those made with after-tax money, such as your take home pay, or funds in your bank account. A different cap applies to non-concessional contributions. See ato.gov.au

What are catch-up contributions?

Caps apply to limit the contributions you can make to superannuation without having to pay additional tax and other penalties. The cap that applies depends on the type of contribution made. Contributions that are considered to be 'concessional contributions' count towards the annual CC cap. From 2018/19 to 2020/21, this annual cap was \$25,000², which then increased to \$27,500 from 2021/22 to 2023/24 (and is increasing to \$30,000 in 2024/25). If you don't fully utilise your CC cap in an income year (from 2018/19 onwards), you're able to 'carry forward' the unused cap amount, and you may be eligible to make 'catch up' concessional contributions in a subsequent year.

What eligibility rules apply?

To be eligible to make catch up CCs you need to:

- have a total 'total super balance'³ at the 30 June prior less than \$500,000, and
- be eligible to make super contributions. You are eligible if under age 67. If you're 67 or older, you need to have met the work test in the financial year you're making the contribution or be eligible for the work test exemption.

Remember that you can only carry forward unused CCs for 5 income years, after which they expire. For example, unused cap amounts that is not used by the end of 2023/24 will expire.

How to access carried forward CC details on MyGov

There are a few ways you can monitor your available carried forward CCs. This includes:

- keeping detailed records of all the contributions you and others (such as your employer) have made to your super accounts for the last 5 income years
- contacting your super funds to check what contributions have been received to your account in the past (including the accounts you may have closed), and
- checking your details on MyGov.

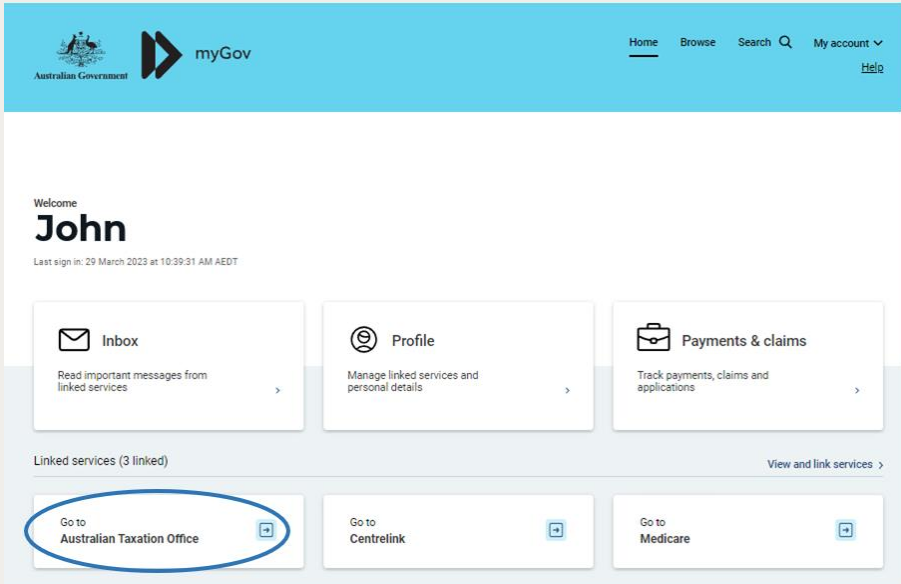
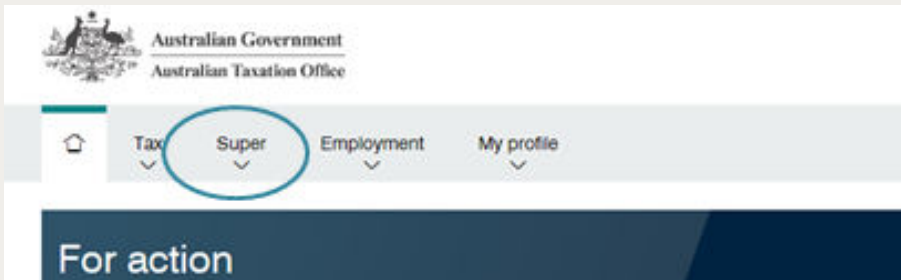
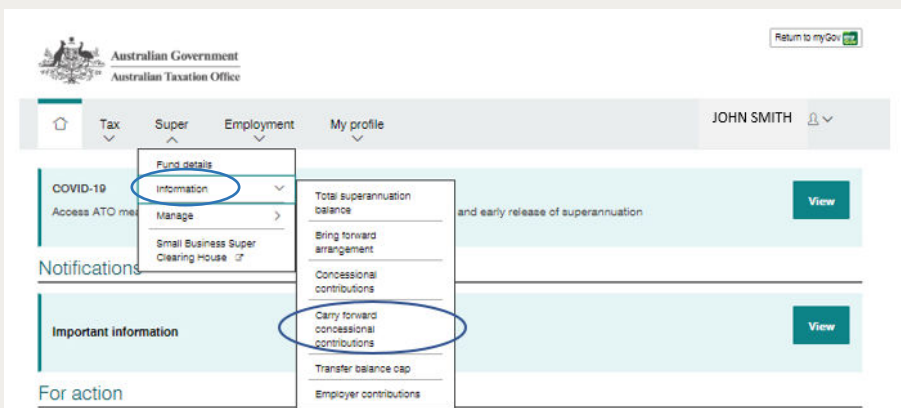
On the following pages, the steps to using MyGov to access your carried forward CC information are explained. However, it is recommended that detailed records also be maintained, and that you refer to your own records rather than relying only on the information in MyGov. This is because there may be a delay before your super fund reports details about your contributions to the ATO. Remember, additional tax applies for excess contributions.

¹ Income for this purpose includes taxable income, reportable fringe benefits, total net investment losses and low tax contributions (concessional contributions that are within your concessional cap).

² Cap may be indexed in future years.

³ Total super balance includes the total of all amounts you hold in super accumulation and pension accounts, in-transit rollovers, and if you have a self-managed super fund, it may also include the outstanding balance of a limited recourse borrowing arrangement. The total is reduced by personal injury or structured settlement contributions made to super.

How to monitor your carried forward concessional contributions

Steps	Details
<p>1. Login to your MyGov account by visiting the following page my.gov.au and select the ATO service</p>	 <p>The screenshot shows the myGov homepage for a user named John. The page includes a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Browse', 'Search', and 'My account'. Below the navigation bar, there is a 'Welcome John' section with the last sign-in date. Three main service tiles are visible: 'Inbox', 'Profile', and 'Payments & claims'. Underneath, there is a 'Linked services (3 linked)' section with three buttons: 'Go to Australian Taxation Office' (circled in blue), 'Go to Centrelink', and 'Go to Medicare'.</p>
<p>2. Don't have a MyGov account or haven't linked ATO?</p>	<p>If you don't already have a MyGov account, you'll need to set one up.</p> <p>Link the ATO service to enable you to access information relating to your superannuation. For instructions on how to do this, please see:</p> <p>https://www.ato.gov.au/General/Online-services/Create-your-myGov-account-and-link-it-to-the-ATO/</p>
<p>3. Select the 'Super' tab</p>	 <p>The screenshot shows the Australian Taxation Office website. The navigation menu includes 'Tax', 'Super', 'Employment', and 'My profile'. The 'Super' tab is circled in blue.</p>
<p>4. Click the 'Information' option and then select 'Carry forward concessional contributions'</p>	 <p>The screenshot shows the Australian Taxation Office website with the 'Super' tab selected. A dropdown menu is open under 'Super', showing options like 'Fund details', 'Information', 'Manage', and 'Small Business Super Clearing House'. The 'Information' option is circled in blue. Below the dropdown, there is a 'For action' section with a 'Carry forward concessional contributions' button circled in blue.</p>

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5. Use the arrow (red circled) to reveal a drop-down list to select a financial year. Your TSB as at the 30 June prior to the relevant financial year is displayed, and also whether or not you're eligible to make catch up CCs (blue circles)

Your unused CCs available to carry forward is also displayed (black circle)

Click on 'show details' (green circled) to reveal how this figure was calculated in more detail (i.e. actual CCs and unused amounts for each financial year)

Information will be provided based on the data held by the ATO

Carry-forward concessional contributions

If the annual concessional contributions cap for the current year is exceeded, unused concessional contributions may be carried forward if the [eligibility criteria](#) is met.

The eligibility criteria to carry forward the unused concessional contributions has been met as the total superannuation balance is less than **\$500,000.00** at the end of 30 June of the previous financial year. Additional catch-up concessional contributions to the super fund(s) may be made. The decisions that are made with this information can have tax consequences. We recommend that financial advice is obtained.

Total superannuation balance at 30 June 2022
\$234,567.89
 Visit [total superannuation balance](#) to learn more.

Financial year: 2022-23
 Current as at 26 March 2023

Unused concessional contributions available to carry forward **Eligible**
\$37,465.07

Eligible to carry forward unused concessional contributions cap because the total superannuation balance is less than **\$500,000.00** at the end of 30 June 2022.

[Show details](#)

Further considerations

- > Concessional contributions may not be reported until 31 October for members of a defined benefit fund.
- > Concessional contributions made to a self-managed fund will not be displayed until we have received and processed the annual return.
- > Concessional contributions will affect additional tax on contributions under [Division 293](#).
- > Refer to previous records or contact the fund (or funds) after 31 October to obtain more up-to-date information.

6. After clicking on 'show details', data for the financial year selected is displayed that shows total carried forward amounts available (black circled) and total CCs (green circled) reported, and also reported amounts from each financial year. Note that this information is based on the data provided to the ATO by super funds for that financial year.



Note: The information shown reflects the information that the ATO has received from your super funds to that point. If there is a delay in any of your funds reporting to the ATO, or there has been an error in reporting, the information displayed will not be accurate. It is important to maintain your own records and ascertain contribution information from other sources such as your super fund.

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2022-23 financial year

Description	Amount
Total carry-forward concessional contributions cap	\$102,500.00
Concessional contributions	\$65,034.93
Unused concessional contributions cap available to carry forward	\$37,465.07

Previous financial years

Financial year	Concessional contributions cap	Concessional contributions	Unused concessional contributions cap
01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022	\$27,500.00	\$17,999.93	\$9,500.07
01/07/2020 - 30/06/2021	\$25,000.00	\$15,740.20	\$9,259.80
01/07/2019 - 30/06/2020	\$25,000.00	\$15,426.09	\$9,573.91
01/07/2018 - 30/06/2019	\$25,000.00	\$15,868.71	\$9,131.29

[Hide details](#)

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Next steps

Contribution rules and eligibility criteria for catch up CCs are complex. This guide is not designed to provide comprehensive information about how the rules work or apply to you. It is important that you speak with your financial adviser, your registered tax agent and visit the ato.gov.au for more information.

Important information and disclaimer

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