

Understanding the NGS Income account

The time of your life starts here

Fact Sheet

July 2024

Are you nearing retirement and looking to start a regular income stream from your retirement savings? We offer an Income account and a Transition to retirement account.

This fact sheet explains the NGS Income account. You can read about the NGS Transition to retirement (TTR) account in the **NGS Retirement Product Disclosure Statement** available at ngssuper.com.au/pds

If you are thinking about starting an NGS Income account, consider getting professional advice to understand how it could work for your personal situation.

We offer low-cost tailored advice through NGS Financial Planning. To make an appointment, phone us on **1300 133 177** or complete the **Financial advice enquiry** form at ngssuper.com.au/advice

Advantages of the NGS Income account

The NGS *Income account* is a flexible and tax-effective means of converting your retirement savings into a regular income stream and has these advantages:

- you can **nominate the regular income payment** you'd like to receive each payment period (subject to government age-based minimum limits)¹
- **flexible payment options** – you can choose to receive your nominated regular income amount fortnightly, monthly, quarterly, six-monthly or yearly
- you can make **lump sum withdrawals** at any time (provided you receive at least the minimum pension payment each year according to your age and account balance)
- you benefit from **tax-free investment earnings** because your retirement savings stay in the super system
- a **wide range of investment options**
- in the event of your death, you can choose to have your income either continue to be paid to a dependant as a **reversionary pension** or paid as a **lump sum** to your dependants or your estate.

Your NGS Income account payments must be paid to a personal account held solely or jointly in your name.

If you are age 60 or over, any payments made from your NGS Income account are tax-free. If you have reached preservation age (see What is my preservation age on page 2) and are less than age 60, you will continue to receive concessional tax treatment when you receive income from your NGS Income account.

Be aware, your investment returns in an NGS Income account are not guaranteed and depend on the performance of your chosen investment options. This means that you do not know how long your money will last.

Set up your account with Easy Default

A quick way to set up your NGS Income account with a default payment amount, payment frequency, investment and drawdown strategy.

Visit ngssuper.com.au/easydefault to learn more.

¹ If you start an NGS Income account before 1 June in a financial year, your minimum annual pension amount will be pro-rated based on the number of days in the financial year from the account start date to the next 30 June. If your NGS Income account starts in June, no minimum annual pension amount applies for that financial year.

Who is eligible for an NGS Income account?

In order to be eligible for an NGS Income account, you must have immediate access to your super benefit, having met one of the following conditions of release:

- you have permanently retired from the workforce after reaching your preservation age
- you have ceased a gainful employment² arrangement on or after age 60, even if you have not permanently retired
- you have reached age 65
- you have become permanently disabled.

What is my preservation age?

Your preservation age depends on your date of birth. If you were born before 1 July 1964 then you have already reached your preservation age. If you were born after 30 June 1964, your preservation is age 60.

Income accounts and Centrelink

An NGS Income account will count towards both the assets test and income test for social security purposes. This means that it may affect your social security entitlements.

You can read more about the government age pension, refer to our fact sheet **Your super and the age pension** at ngssuper.com.au/factsheets

As social security laws are complex, you may wish to consult Centrelink or get professional advice from an NGS Financial Planner before you apply for an NGS Income account.

How does an NGS Income account work?

When you become eligible, you may choose to transfer part or all of your super balance to an NGS Income account provided the value of all your retirement accounts do not exceed your personal transfer balance cap.³

Your NGS Income account can be made up of transfers from:

- some or all of your NGS Accumulation account (if you want to make any further contributions to this account, you will need to do so before you transfer it to the NGS Income account)
- rollovers from other super funds or pension accounts
- lump sum total and permanent disablement payments you receive from a super fund
- payments received as a result of commuting certain pensions or annuities into a lump sum.

You cannot make additional or ongoing contributions (including transfers) into your NGS Income account once it has been established. All transfers and rollovers into your NGS Income account must first be received by NGS Super before your NGS Income account starts.

Once your NGS Income account is established, you must receive a payment at least once each financial year. This means that you must receive a minimum payment based on your age and account balance at the time of calculation in order to comply with super law.

If you are under age 60, any income payments you receive from your NGS Income account will be taxed at your marginal tax rate, net of any tax offsets, plus the Medicare levy. The amount of tax that applies to your income payments may be reduced by any tax-free amounts for which you are eligible and the 15% tax rebate.

Payments for members aged 60 and over are tax free.

Any additional lump sums or rollovers you'd like to make at a later date can only be processed through an NGS Accumulation account.

You can then choose to either:

- set up a second NGS Income account or
- stop and close your current NGS Income account and start a new account with the additional funds.

Note: If at 31 December 2014 you held an account-based pension and you were in receipt of the government age pension, you will be assessed under the previous age pension income test rules for super pensions. The old rules allow for a deductible amount. Your annual income amount would be reduced by the deductible amount. The result is declared as income for the age pension income test.

However, if you stop and close your NGS Income account and start a new NGS Income account, you will be assessed under the new deeming rules for the income test for account-based pensions.

This could potentially result in you receiving a lower, or in some cases, no government age pension.

For more details, see our fact sheet **Your super and the age pension** at ngssuper.com.au/factsheets

The minimum amount that must be paid from your *NGS Income account* annually is shown in the following table. The minimum is calculated based on your age at the start date of your NGS Income account (for the first year) and your age at 1 July each subsequent financial year.

Minimum payments

Age	Minimum ⁴ % of account balance
Under 65	4
65–74	5
75–79	6
80–84	7
85–89	9
90–94	11
95 or more	14

² Gainfully employed means employed or self-employed for gain or reward in any business, trade, profession, vocation, calling, occupation or employment.

³ The general transfer balance cap for the 2024-25 financial year is \$1.9 million. However, all individuals have their own personal transfer balance cap which is managed by the ATO. You can view your personal transfer balance cap through your ATO linked account by logging into my.gov.au

⁴ Where commencement is after 1 July and before 1 June, the minimum is proportional to the number of days remaining in that financial year.

Key features of the NGS Income account

Minimum opening balance	\$20,000
Income amount	Chosen by you, provided you meet the minimum payment required (set by government legislation).
Payment options	Fortnightly, monthly, quarterly, six-monthly or annually by direct credit to your bank or credit union account.
Lump sum withdrawals	Available at any time.
Withdrawal fee	Nil.
Investment options	<p>You have the flexibility to choose from a selection of:</p> <p>6 pre-mixed options – Diversified, High Growth, Balanced, Defensive, Indexed Growth and Retire Plus.</p> <p>6 sector-specific options – Australian Shares, International Shares, Infrastructure, Property, Diversified Bonds, and Cash and Term Deposits.</p> <p>Tailored option – NGS Self-Managed Direct Investment Option (DIO) which features the ability to choose from ASX-listed companies, exchange traded funds and term deposits.</p>
Investment switches	Available at any time with no switching fee.
Death benefits	Generally payable (if your nomination is valid) to your reversionary beneficiary if nominated at the commencement of your account, or to your nominated beneficiary(s), or to your estate, as either a lump sum or a pension (reversionary beneficiary only). Further details can be found in our fact sheet Nominate your beneficiaries at ngssuper.com.au/factsheets
Easy Default	<p>A quick way to set up your NGS Income account with a default investment strategy, payment amount and frequency.</p> <p>Visit ngssuper.com.au/easydefault to learn more.</p>
Retirement Bonus	NGS Super members transferring from an NGS Accumulation or TTR account to an Income account may be eligible for a Retirement Bonus payment. The amount payable to eligible members will depend on the amount transferred to the Income account and the investment options held. For more information, please refer to the NGS Retirement Product Disclosure Statement at ngssuper.com.au/factsheets
Administration fees and costs Investment fees and costs Transaction costs	For details of these fees, please refer to our Fees, costs and tax guide at ngssuper.com.au/pds
NGS Self-Managed DIO trading fees	For details of fees that apply to the Self-Managed DIO, please refer to the NGS Self-Managed Guide at ngssuper.com.au/pds

More information?

Contact us

You can contact us at ngssuper.com.au/contactus or call us on **1300 133 177** Monday to Friday, 8am–8pm (AEST/AEDT).

Fax: **(03) 9245 5827**

Postal address:

**GPO Box 4303
MELBOURNE VIC 3001**

Need help?

If you are thinking about retirement, consider obtaining professional advice for your personal situation.

We offer single-issue advice limited to your NGS Super account at no cost over the phone through our Financial Advice Helpline.

We also offer low-cost tailored advice through NGS Financial Planning. To make an appointment phone us on **1300 133 177** or complete the **Financial advice enquiry** form at ngssuper.com.au/advice

Important information

The information provided in this fact sheet is general information only and does not take into account your objectives, financial situation or needs. Before making a financial decision, please assess the appropriateness of the information to your individual circumstances and consider seeking professional advice.

NGS Financial Planning Pty Ltd, ABN 89 134 620 518, is a corporate authorised representative #394909 of Guideway Financial Services Pty Ltd, ABN 46 156 498 538, AFSL #420367 and offers financial planning services on behalf of NGS Super ABN 73 549 180 515.