



Contribution Splitting

What is contributions splitting?

Contributions splitting allows you to split certain superannuation contributions made during a financial year to an eligible spouse's superannuation account. It is a way for your spouse to accumulate their own superannuation, even if they have a low income or they are not working.

For the purposes of contribution splitting, the person who made the contributions is known as the '**sending spouse**' and the person receiving the contributions is called the '**receiving spouse**'.

Who can split contributions?

The Sending Spouse

For the purposes of contributions splitting, the **sending spouse** can be any age and may be working or retired.

The Receiving Spouse

The receiving spouse must be:

- an eligible spouse*; and
- under preservation age; or
- between preservation age and age 65 and **not** met a condition of release e.g. permanent retirement or disability.

Preservation Age:

Date of birth	Preservation age
Before 1 July 1960	55
1 July 1960 – 30 June 1961	56
1 July 1961 – 30 June 1962	57
1 July 1962 – 30 June 1963	58
1 July 1963 – 30 June 1964	59
After 30 June 1964	60

- * Under Commonwealth rules, the definition of eligible spouse includes married and de facto partners but not same sex relationship partners.

What contributions can be split?

The definition of splittable contributions changed on 5 April 2007.

Splittable contributions include concessional and non-concessional contributions up until 5 April 2007.

After 5 April 2007, it will no longer be possible to split non-concessional contributions (personal, undeducted, co-contributions and spouse contributions).

There are no changes to the rules around splitting concessional contributions.

Splittable contributions include the following contributions paid into the RBF-TAS SG Account and the RBF Investment Account in the immediate *previous* financial year:

Type of Contribution	Maximum % of balance that can be split
Non-concessional Contributions made on or before 5 April 2007	
Personal undeducted contributions	100%
Spouse contributions for which a tax deduction is allowed	
Super co-contribution	
Concessional Contributions	
Superannuation Guarantee contributions	85%
Salary sacrifice contributions to the Investment Account (not including salary sacrifice to a defined benefit scheme)	
Additional employer contributions	
Self employed contributions for which a tax deduction is intended	

If you are completing a rollover of your entire benefit to another fund, you may split both the *previous* and *current* financial year's contributions.

It is important to note that splitting the current financial year's contributions can only occur where the rollover is to an external financial institution. This rule does not apply where an RBF-TAS SG or RBF Contributory Scheme balance is moved to the RBF Investment Account.

Are there any contributions that cannot be split?

You are not able to split contributions made to:

- the RBF Contributory Scheme
- the RBF Compulsory Preservation Account
- the Tasmanian Ambulance Service Superannuation Scheme
- the State Fire Commission Superannuation Scheme
- the Parliamentary Retiring Benefits Fund
- the Parliamentary Superannuation Fund

Other contributions that cannot be split are:

- Rollovers **from** other funds
- Transfers **from** the RBF-TAS SG Account or RBF Contributory Scheme **into** the RBF Investment Account
- Any contributions subject to a Family Law Court Order
- Contributions received as a result of:
 - a contribution split already completed
 - a Family Law Court Order payment split

How often can contributions be split?

Only one splitting application can be processed per year for each eligible account (i.e. RBF-TAS SG Account & RBF Investment Account).

How are contribution splits paid?

Contribution splits are paid as a Contribution Splitting Eligible Termination Payment (ETP). ETP components are retained including any preserved amounts.

The Eligible Service Period (ESP) on a Contribution Splitting ETP is zero. Therefore, a contribution split has no impact on either the sending or receiving spouse's ESP date.

How are contribution splits taxed?

The sending spouse is liable for any contributions tax payable on the initial contribution. There is no tax payable at the time of the split. Normal taxation rules will apply when the receiving spouse accesses their benefit.

Do split contributions count towards the contributions limit?

When the contributions were first made, they counted towards that person's contribution limit. The receiving spouse does not count any contributions received as a result of a contributions split toward their limit.

Is there a fee for splitting contributions?

At this time, RBF does not charge a fee for processing a contribution splitting application.

Can I cancel my split?

The decision to split contributions is irrevocable once the split has been affected i.e. it is not possible to transfer contributions from a receiving spouse back to the sending spouse.

How do I apply to split my contributions?

If you wish to split your contributions, you should:

1. Contact RBF to obtain a Contribution Splitting Application form – RBF will provide a personalised form which includes details of your splittable contributions. This form can be obtained directly from the RBF website if you have registered for Member Access.
2. Complete the form and return it to RBF – Provided no further information is required, RBF will process the contribution split.

Members should note that where an entire account balance is rolled over or transferred, investment returns are not applied during the processing period. In peak processing times this may be between 6 to 13 days.

For further information

Phone us on: 03 6233 3672 or 1800 622 631

Fax us on: 03 6233 3357

Email us at: super@rbf.com.au

Write to: The Chief Executive Officer
Retirement Benefits Fund Board
GPO Box 446
Hobart Tas 7001

Visit us at: 39 Sandy Bay Road, Hobart
Level 1, 87 George Street, Launceston

Personal interviews are available in Hobart, Launceston, Burnie and Devonport by appointment only.

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