



## Media Fact Sheet

# Superannuation for Federal Parliamentarians



## About

The Department of Finance (Finance) provides policy advice on the framework for managing the superannuation arrangements for current and former members of Federal Parliament, as well as a range of other Australian Government employees and appointees.

Finance also administers the superannuation arrangements for members of the Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Scheme, which closed to new and returning members in 2004.

## What are the current superannuation arrangements for federal parliamentarians?

Parliamentarians who enter the Parliament on or after 9 October 2004 have superannuation arrangements that are similar to those that apply throughout the community.

Employer superannuation contributions, at a set rate of 15.4% of salary, are paid to a superannuation fund chosen by the individual.

The superannuation benefit is a lump sum consisting of the accumulated contributions and earnings. The level of earnings will depend upon the performance of the investments in the superannuation fund that is chosen by the individual.

Parliamentarians who entered the Parliament before the 2004 general election are members of the Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Scheme (PCSS), established under the *Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Act 1948*. The PCSS provides pensions to retired parliamentarians with sufficient service, which, as a minimum, would require a parliamentarian to serve three terms in Parliament.

## Where can I get more information on PCSS pensions?

Information on the features of the PCSS can be found in the [Parliamentary Handbook](#). The Handbook also describes how benefits are calculated, both in respect of a parliamentarian's service in the Parliament and also in respect of Ministerial positions and other additional offices.

## Where can I find information on the pensions of individual parliamentarians?

Due to privacy considerations, information is not provided on superannuation benefits of individual parliamentarians, including commenting on hypothetical calculations.

## What is the salary applicable to the PCSS?

The parliamentary salaries applicable to the calculation of contributions and benefits under the PCSS are different to the salaries paid to sitting parliamentarians. The Remuneration Tribunal is responsible for determining these salaries.

The [Remuneration Tribunal's](#) website contains information about parliamentary salaries, including the superannuation salaries applicable to the PCSS.



## Other useful links

- [Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Act 1948](#)
- [2004 Parliamentary superannuation arrangements](#)
- [Information on service and offices held by current and former parliamentarians](#)
- [Superannuation for other Commonwealth employees and appointees](#)