



ABOUT YOUR SUPERANNUATION

A guide for parish clergy in the Diocese of Sydney

What superannuation contributions are made on my behalf?

Under the Sydney Diocesan Superannuation Fund Ordinance 1961, superannuation contributions for ordained ministers, senior assistant and assistant ministers serving in parishes on a full-time basis are made at the following rates –

- for ministers, senior assistant and assistant ministers having completed 6 or more years of service: 17% of the recommended minimum stipend for ministers
- for other senior assistant or assistant ministers 17% of the recommended minimum stipend for 3rd/4th year assistant ministers

You are not an “employee” for the purposes of the Superannuation Guarantee legislation, so no additional entitlement to superannuation contributions arises under that legislation.

Your superannuation contributions are paid by the Synod and then recovered as part of the Parish Cost Recoveries charge paid by your parish each year.

Superannuation contributions are paid to your nominated fund on a monthly basis.

Are there superannuation rules for part-time clergy?

Yes. Similar superannuation rules apply for clergy who are serving in a parish on a part-time basis. This is calculated on a Full Time Equivalency (FTE) basis. If serving 3 days per week the superannuation will be 50% of the full time payment. For more information, please contact the Parish Support Manager.

To what fund are the contributions made?

All parish clergy are members of Mercer Super Trust - Anglican Superannuation Fund (the Diocesan Fund) unless they choose another superannuation fund to which contributions are to be made on their behalf (for more information, see the “Can I choose my superannuation fund?” section below).

If you are not already a member of the Diocesan Fund at the time you are licensed, you will be contacted for details of the fund you wish to have your superannuation contributions paid to.

It is important that information relating to any change of superannuation fund be provided in a timely manner to avoid a delay in having your superannuation contributions paid.

For how long will superannuation contributions be made?

Superannuation contributions will be made on your behalf as long as you are licensed to serve in a parish.

Can I make additional contributions?

You can make additional contributions for superannuation, either from after tax earnings or stipend sacrifice, subject to the rules of your fund and superannuation law.

If you want to make additional contributions, you should seek advice from a financial adviser regarding the contribution amount and the possible methods of payment. These additional payments must be paid directly by the parish to your nominated fund. Additional contributions cannot be made through the Parish Cost Recoveries system.



Can I choose my superannuation fund?

You can choose a superannuation fund by giving the Parish Support Manager (on behalf of the Standing Committee) a written notice (known as a “Notice of Superannuation Fund”) which specifies the following details regarding the Fund you have chosen –

- the name of the fund
- the address and telephone number of the administrator of the fund
- the Australian Business Number (ABN) of the fund
- the superannuation product identification number (if applicable)
- your membership number (if applicable)
- the fund bank account details if the payment is to be made by direct credit

A Notice of Superannuation Fund can be obtained from Parish Support.

The Notice of Superannuation Fund must be accompanied by –

- a letter from the trustee of the Alternate Fund stating that the fund is a complying fund for the purposes of superannuation law, and
- a written notice from the trustee of the Alternate Fund advising that it will accept contributions on your behalf, and
- any other relevant details regarding methods of contribution.

You may give only one Notice of Superannuation Fund for any 12 month period and only one Fund may be specified in that Notice. You may cancel a Notice of Superannuation Fund by giving written notice to the Parish Support Manager (on behalf of the Standing Committee) of the cancellation.

As you are not an “employee” for the purposes of Superannuation Guarantee legislation, the rules regarding choice of superannuation fund in that legislation do not apply to you.

If you do not exercise your right of choice, contributions will be made to the Diocesan Fund.

What benefits are available under the superannuation scheme?

Information in relation to the benefits from your membership of the Diocesan Fund is available from Mercer Super Trust - Anglican Superannuation Fund. Please contact them on 1800 682 525.

You should, if necessary, obtain specific advice from a superannuation or financial advisor.

What if I need more information?

If you have any further questions, please contact: your bishop, or the Parish Support Partner by email at clergyserVICES@sydney.anglican.asn.au or by telephone on 9265 1534.