How to monitor

carried forward concessional contributions



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 in an income year (from 2018/19) that are not used by the end of 2023/24 will expire.

Further information

For further information please contact David Fleming on 0455 405 159 or david@promenadewm.com. au, or Joshua Fleming on 0447 259 101 or joshua@promenadewm.com.au.

^{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.

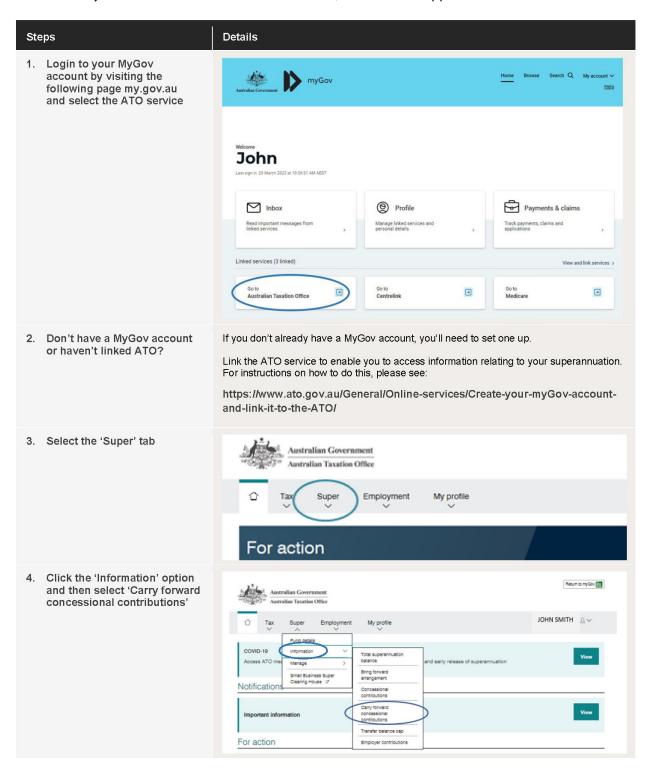
^{3.} Total super balance includes the total of all amounts you hold in super accumulation and pension accounts, in-transit rollovers, and if you have a self managed super fund, it may also include the outstanding balance of a limited recourse borrowing arrangement. The total is reduced by personal injury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

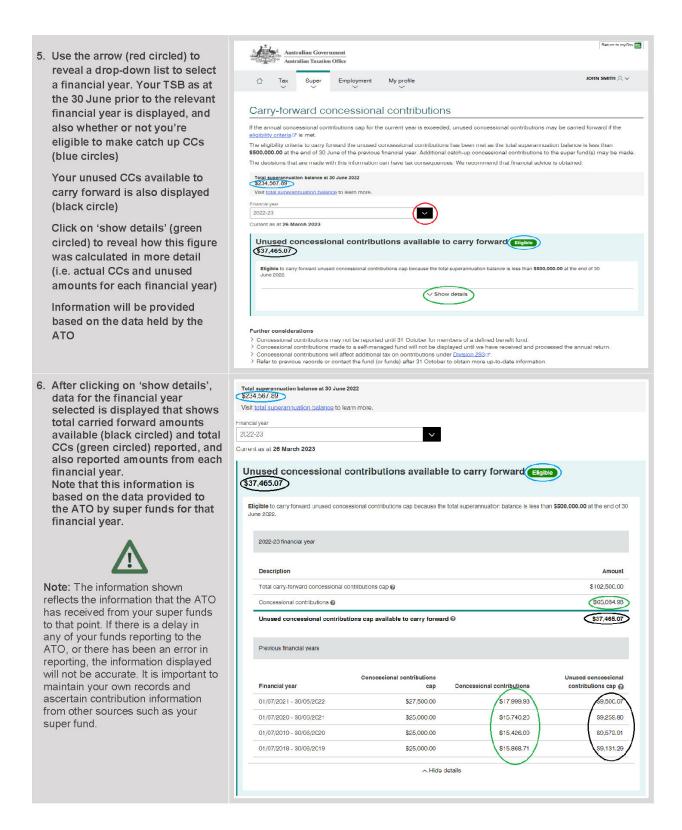
How to access carried forward CC details on MyGov

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.





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.