



Unclaimed Money Information for Claimants

- Our service is free – no fees to make a claim
- Search for unclaimed money at www.osr.nsw.gov.au

What is unclaimed money?

The unclaimed money held by OSR has been deposited by businesses, government agencies, local councils and many other similar sources. They have deposited the money with OSR, as they have not been able to locate and return the money to the rightful owner for six years or more.

Types of unclaimed money collected by OSR include interest from investments, dividends, council deposits and profits.

Searching for money on the OSR website

To perform a search for all money available for claim on the OSR website:

1. Go to www.osr.nsw.gov.au
2. Follow the link to the unclaimed money search page
3. Type in the search name and follow the instructions.

Superannuation

OSR holds unclaimed superannuation funds that were lodged from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 2007. These benefits were lodged where the member was deceased or had reached the eligibility age (65 for women and men) and no contributions had been made to the fund for two years.

From 1 July 2007, OSR only receives unclaimed superannuation benefits from NSW Public Sector Superannuation Funds. All other superannuation benefits are lodged with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

What is unclaimed superannuation?

Unclaimed superannuation is a superannuation benefit, which has become unclaimed since 1 July 2007 and the following applies.

Where the member:

- has reached the eligibility age of 65 years
- no contributions have been received or defined benefit accrued for two years
- no contact has been made with the member for five years, despite reasonable efforts by the provider.

Or, in the case of a non-member spouse:

- In cases of a payment split as a result of a determination under the *Family Law Act 1975*

- The non-member spouse (or their legal representative, if they are deceased) is entitled to be paid an amount, and
- The superannuation provider, after reasonable efforts and time, is unable to ensure the benefit is received by the non-member or any other person entitled to receive it.

Or, in the case of a deceased member:

- The superannuation provider determines that an immediate benefit (other than a pension or annuity) is required to be paid.
- No contributions have been received or defined benefits accrued for two years.
- The superannuation provider, after reasonable efforts and time, is unable to ensure the benefit is received by the person entitled to receive it.

Information about unclaimed superannuation benefits and lost member benefits is available from the ATO. See 'More information' for contact details.

Bank savings not included

The Australian Securities & Investments Commission is responsible for unclaimed money held by banks, building societies, credit unions and friendly societies. See 'More information' for contact details.

In past years, OSR was responsible for receiving unclaimed money from



MORE INFORMATION



www.osr.nsw.gov.au



1300 366 016*



(02) 9689 6345



unclaimedmoney@osr.nsw.gov.au



GPO Box 4087
Sydney NSW 2001

*Interstate clients please call (02) 9689 6200.
Help in community languages is available.

OTHER CONTACTS



Victoria
State Revenue Office, Vic
13 21 61
www.sro.vic.gov.au

ACT

Public Trustee
Unclaimed Monies
(02) 6207 9800
www.publictrustee.act.gov.au

Northern Territory

Department of Treasury
(08) 8999 6620
www.nt.gov.au

Queensland

Public Trustees Office
1800 066 774
www.pt.qld.gov.au

South Australia

Treasury and Finance
(08) 8226 3106
www.treasury.sa.gov.au

Tasmania

Treasury & Finance
(03) 6233 2948
www.tas.gov.au

Western Australia

Department of Treasury
Unclaimed Monies
(08) 9222 9185
www.treasury.wa.gov.au

Australian Taxation Office

Superannuation Lost Members
Register: 13 10 20
www.ato.gov.au

Australian Securities & Investments Commission (ASIC)

Savings, life insurance
and shares: 1300 300 630
www.fido.asic.gov.au

savings accounts last used during the years shown here:

- All banks (1976–1982)
- State Bank of NSW (1976–1986)
- All credit unions, building and friendly societies (1976–1991)
- St George Building Society (1976–1985).

How to make a claim

Claims can be made online, by following the simple instructions on www.osr.nsw.gov.au. Alternatively, claims can be posted to OSR. See 'More information' for contact details.

When making a claim, the following information is required:

1. **Proof of identity** – One document for each owner and claimant is required (Three documents in total for each person. A document cannot cover more than one category.)

Category 1 – Identity and date of birth*

- An Australian Birth Certificate issued by Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages
- Current Passport

Category 2 – Operating in the community*

- Medicare card
- Current Australian Driver Licence
- Motor vehicle registration
- Centrelink Card
- Department of Veterans Affairs Card
- Health Care Card

Category 3 – Current residential address*

- Current utility documents (eg electricity, phone or gas bills)

- Current bank statements
- Current rate notice
- Current residential lease agreement

*Evidence of change of name is required if the name on any of the documents presented is different to the name of the claimant (eg Marriage Certificate, Change of Name Certificate or deed poll).

2. **Proof of connection to the last known address held by OSR** – for example, a council rate notice, electricity or gas bill or letters from the enterprise that forwarded the unclaimed money to OSR.
3. **Proof of a relationship between you and the enterprise that sent the unclaimed money to OSR** – for example, letters from the enterprise to you, statements, share or premium certificates. You may need to contact the enterprise that forwarded the unclaimed money to OSR and ask them to provide this documentation.

All copies of documentation need to be certified by a Justice of the Peace, a solicitor or an accountant.

Penalties for false claims and providing misleading information

Penalties of up to \$11 000 exist for making false or misleading statements for unclaimed money.

OSR regularly conducts compliance checks and investigations to make sure those making unclaimed money applications are the rightful owners of the funds.

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