



Plumbing & Pipe Trades Entitlement Fund Member Fact Sheet

Plumber's Fund Membership

What is the PPTEF?

The Plumbing & Pipe Trades Entitlements Fund (PPTEF) is your entitlement fund and the safety net for plumbers and sprinkler fitters. The PPTEF Board is comprised of key stakeholders in the Plumbing & Sprinkler Fitting industry and is represented by both Unions and Employer Associations to ensure balanced governance.

Who are Incolink?

Incolink is Australia's oldest, largest and most comprehensive workers' entitlement scheme and acts as Funds Manager and Administrator for the PPTEF. Incolink's 30 years experience means your funds are kept safe and you'll have access to the highest level of customer service. Incolink's investment and financial strength works for members to help deliver the highest possible member distributions each year.

What is my Plumber's Fund Account and how can I access it?

Your Plumber's Fund Account is where your redundancy entitlements are managed. Having an account allows your employer to make contributions on your behalf which you can access if you become unemployed. Our online member portal, WorkerLink makes it easy for you to check your account balance, view contributions history and make a claim when the time comes.

What is my Plumber's Fund Account Balance?

When you're working, your employer makes contributions into your PPTEF Account on monthly basis. Contributions made by your employer accumulate over time giving you a total Account Balance.

You can check your balance online by logging in to our online member portal, WorkerLink.

How do I access the money in my Plumber's Fund Account?

When you become unemployed, your employer will notify the PPTEF and you'll be eligible to make a claim.

Member Distributions

What is a member distribution?

A member distribution is a direct payment to PPTEF members based on the investment return of the fund during that period. Each year, our industry leading investment managers put your entitlements to work for you and for the betterment of the industry. The profit earned off these investments are used for the following:

- A direct payment to workers by way of an annual member distributions.
- Managing the fund and its operations.
- Support the industry through Occupation Health & Safety Training Grants helping to create a safe, highly skilled and available workforce.

What amount is paid as member distributions and how often are they paid?

The PPTEF Board will determine distribution criteria and amounts in accordance with the PPTEF Trust Deed. We hope to have more information about how distributions will be paid in the coming months.

As Trustee, member distributions are the top priority of the PPTEU, and we aim to better ACIRT through leveraging Incolink's investment nous.

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Redundancy Claims & Taxation

When can I claim funds from my PPTEF Account?

You can make a claim when you become unemployed regardless of the reason for leaving your job. Your employer notifies us that your employment has ended and you'll become eligible to make a claim online by logging into the worker member portal.

When can I make a Tax Free claim?

If you are made genuinely redundant, you will be able to claim at a nil tax rate (up to the tax free limit). Your employer must declare that your position is no longer required and that genuine redundancy is the end reason your employment has ended.

If your employment ends for another reason, this is called an Employment Termination Payment (ETP). ETP's are subject to different tax treatment as outlined by the Australian Tax Office (ATO).

What does genuine redundancy mean?

Genuine Redundancy is defined by the ATO. If your position is no longer required and your employer declared that you were made genuinely redundant, you are eligible to make a genuine redundancy claim.

How is the tax-free limit calculated?

The tax-free limit is calculated by the base amount + (service amount x years of service). The base amount and service amount are defined by the ATO and change annually. The years of service depend on your employment history as provided by your contributing employer.

How are years of service calculated? Is my employment with all previous employers included or just the last employer?

Years of service are calculated based on the years of employment with your last contributing employer.

However, if you do not claim your funds from your last employment and continue to work in the industry with an employer that contributes to your PPTEF account, if and when you are made genuinely redundant by your 2nd employer, the year of service calculation will include your first employer.

My claim amount is higher than the tax-free limit. What tax rates apply for the excess claim amount?

The applicable tax rate for excess amounts is also defined by the ATO. Depending on your preservation age this rate will either be 17% or 32%.

I am retiring from the industry. Am I able to withdraw the full amount from my PPTEF account and what would be the tax implications?

The full amount can be withdrawn. The applicable tax rate depends on your age upon retirement. Further information can be found on the ATO website.

I have reached the preservation age. Am I able to claim my funds tax free and in full?

If you have reached preservation age or retirement age and you were made genuinely redundant, you will still pay tax at a rate stated on the ATO website (currently 17%).

Claim Reasons & Applicable Tax Rates

Claim Reason	Tax Applicable on Claim
Genuine Redundancy	Nil up to the tax-free threshold*
Termination	32% or 17% if reached preservation age ^
Resignation	32% or 17% if reached preservation age ^
Promotion "off the tools"	32% or 17% if reached preservation age ^
Retirement	32% or 17% if reached preservation age ^
Leaving Australia	32% or 17% if reached preservation age ^

* Tax free thresholds set by the ATO. PPTEF recommends members seek independent financial advice when making a genuine redundancy claim. Tax rate applied to amounts above the tax-free threshold is 32% or 17% if reached preservation age.

^ The preservation age is set by the ATO and is a sliding scale based on date of birth. Please refer to the ATO website for information regarding the preservation age.

This document is prepared in good faith and we accept no liability for any errors or omissions.