



Australian Government

Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation

Update to PSS Death and Invalidity Benefits



5 October 2021



Public Sector
Superannuation
Scheme

Contact us

If you would like us to send you a copy of this document or any additional information referred to, or if you have any questions about this document or PSS in general, call us on **1300 000 377** or contact us using the details located at the back of this publication.

About this update

This is an update to the PSS Death and invalidity benefits booklet which forms part of the PSS Product Disclosure Statement, Tenth Edition (PDS) which was issued on 6 December 2019.

The text in the following sections of the Death and invalidity benefits booklet is being replaced as required under the *Financial Sector Reform (Hayne Royal Commission Response) Act 2020*:

- 'Your duty of disclosure'
- 'If you do not tell us something'
- The text which replaces the above sections is disclosed below:

The duty to take reasonable care

Before you enter into a life insurance contract, you have a legal duty to take reasonable care not to make a misrepresentation to the insurer before the contract of insurance is entered into.

A misrepresentation is a false answer, an answer that is only partially true, or an answer which does not fairly reflect the truth.

This duty applies to a new contract of insurance and also applies when extending or making changes to existing insurance, and reinstating insurance.

When you apply for life insurance, we conduct a process called underwriting. It's how we decide whether we can cover you, and if so, on what terms and at what cost.

We will ask questions we need to know the answers to. These will be about your personal circumstances, such as your health and medical history, occupation, income, lifestyle, pastimes, and current and past insurance. The information you give us in response to our questions is vital to our decision.

If you do not meet your duty

If you do not meet your legal duty, this can have serious impacts on your insurance. There are different remedies that may be available to us. These are set out in the *Insurance Contracts Act 1984 (Cth)*. These are intended to put us in the position we would have been in if the duty had been met.

Your cover could be avoided (treated as if it never existed), or its terms may be varied. This may also result in a claim being declined or a benefit being reduced.

Please note that there may be circumstances where we later investigate whether the information given to us was true. For example, we may do this when a claim is made.

Before we exercise any of these remedies, we will explain our reasons and what you can do if you disagree.

Guidance for answering our questions

You are responsible for the information provided to us. When answering our questions, please:

- Think carefully about each question before you answer. If you are unsure of the meaning of any question, please ask us before you respond.
- Answer every question.
- Answer truthfully, accurately and completely. If you are unsure about whether you should include information, please include it.
- Review your application carefully before it is submitted. If someone else helped prepare your application (for example, your adviser), please check every answer (and if necessary, make any corrections) before the application is submitted.

Changes before your cover starts

Before your cover starts, we may ask about any changes that mean you would now answer our questions differently. As any changes might require further assessment or investigation, it could save time if you let us know about any changes when they happen.

If you need help

It's important that you understand this information and the questions we ask. Ask us or a person you trust, such as your adviser for help if you have difficulty understanding the process of buying insurance or answering our questions.

If you're having difficulty due to a disability, understanding English or for any other reason, we're here to help. If you want, you can have a support person you trust with you.

Notifying the insurer

If, after the cover starts, you think you may not have met your duty, please contact us immediately and we'll let you know whether it has any impact on the cover.



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