

SuperStream

Fact Sheet, July 2023

What is SuperStream?

SuperStream was a government reform designed to improve the efficiency with which money and data flows around the superannuation system. The standard aimed to enhance efficiencies by introducing common data processes and rules for sending employer contributions. The SuperStream standards were introduced in October 2015.

They were recently modified in March 2021 to extend to capturing roll-overs and release authorities. From October 2021 you can only roll-over into or out of your Super Fund using SuperStream.

The rules effectively have two components:

- + **Payment Standards** – The payment must be made electronically to the nominated superfund
- + **Data Standards** – Details of the payment transaction, such as employee name, Tax File Number and Superfund member number are also sent to the superfund.

Who does SuperStream apply to?

The SuperStream standard is mandatory for all employers making super contributions, SMSFs receiving employer contributions and APRA regulated super funds.

However, the standard will not affect your SMSF if contributions are only from a related-party employer.

Generally, a related party employer is an employer that is controlled (more than 50% of the voting rights or can exert significant influence) by one or more members of the SMSF or their related parties as defined in Part 8 of the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993*.

SuperStream also does not apply to personal contributions made to your SMSF by its members.

What do I need to do to meet my SuperStream obligations?

Employers

We encourage you, as an employer, to familiarise yourself with your obligations under the SuperStream reforms. These include:

- + Providing the minimum data set in the required electronic format, using the standard terms and message
- + Making payments to each fund electronically
- + Ensuring payments and data are sent and received on the same day
- + Responding to fund requests for missing information and queries within 10 days.

Options available to help you implement processes to comply with SuperStream include:

- + Upgrading your in house systems or payroll software package
- + Using an outsourced payroll provider
- + Using a commercial clearing house or the free Small Business Superannuation Clearing House (available for small employers with 19 or fewer employees).

Self Managed Superannuation Funds (SMSF)

If your SMSF is receiving employer contributions (other than just from related party employers) or roll-overs the SMSF trustees must obtain an electronic service address for the delivery of data messages. SMSF members will need to provide the following information of their superannuation fund to their employer and transferring super fund:

- + SMSF Name
- + SMSF ABN
- + SMSF bank account details (including BSB & account number)
- + Electronic service address (ESA).

SMSFs are required to have a SuperStream gateway to collect their messages from employers, the ATO and other super fund so the required data can be collated into your SMSF. We have an arrangement via BGL to administer the gateway services on behalf of our SMSF clients.

What happens if I do not comply?

From October 2021 the ATO has introduced more strident compliance activity if there is unsatisfactory progress towards meeting the SuperStream obligations.

The ATO can impose significant administrative penalties for failure to comply with these rules (up to \$1,800 each time the new rules are breached). The penalties apply to both employers and SMSFs.

Similarly, if roll-over requests are not SuperStream compliant, the Auditor may highlight a contravention.

For further information or advice on how Accru can help secure your future, contact your local Accru advisor.

Author: Accru Sydney

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