

## SMSF FOUNDATIONS COURSE

# Course Outline

6 modules · 10 CPD hours · Complete over 4 months · \$350 + GST

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## Course Overview

The SMSF Foundations Course is designed to provide students with fundamental knowledge regarding the operation and management of self-managed super funds. It provides a core understanding of the superannuation laws, along with the regulatory requirements that apply to SMSFs, building a foundation for you to successfully undertake your work as a SMSF practitioner.

## Duration & Access

Students have 16 weeks (4 months) to complete all learning and assessment requirements from the date the course is activated. Each module includes a detailed workbook and supporting references. An assessment is included at the end of each module.

## CPD Recognition

Recognition of CPD hours is available for CPA Australia, CAANZ, IPA, the SMSF Association and the Tax Practitioners Board (TPB). Students who complete the course will receive a certificate of completion.

## Complimentary SMSF Association Membership

Students who successfully complete the SMSF Foundations Course are eligible to claim a complimentary period of SMSF Association membership as an Affiliate Member (valued at \$320 p.a.). Visit: [smsfassociation.com/smarter-smsf-complimentary-offer](https://smsfassociation.com/smarter-smsf-complimentary-offer)

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## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion, students should be able to:

- Identify the different types of superannuation funds and list the advantages and disadvantages of SMSFs
  - Explain the requirements to operate an SMSF, including the trustee structure, trust deed requirements and a trustee's responsibilities
  - Outline the key requirements of trustees preparing and maintaining a fund's investment strategy
  - Explain the different types of contributions that can be made into superannuation and the limitations on making contributions
  - Explain the investment restrictions imposed on how a trustee can invest within a SMSF
  - Outline the different types of pensions that can be paid from a SMSF and how benefits can generally be paid to a fund member
  - Describe the taxation issues specific to SMSFs, including the different tax rates and exemptions that apply within a fund
  - Explain the different statutory requirements that a trustee must adhere to in running a SMSF
  - Analyse and explain how super death benefits are planned for and paid from within a SMSF
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## Module Outline

The following table provides details of the topics covered within each module in the SMSF Foundations Course:

Module 01	Introduction to Super, SMSFs and the SMSF Lifecycle · ~2 hrs CPD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The regulation of Australia's superannuation system</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The three pillars of superannuation in Australia</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The different types of super funds that exist in Australia</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The key features and regulation of self-managed super funds</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The definition of a self-managed super fund</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ How to establish an SMSF</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The requirements to establish an SMSF</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Introduction to the lifecycle of an SMSF</li> </ul>

Module 02	Contributing to an SMSF · ~2 hrs CPD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What is a contribution, the eligibility requirements and how contributions can be made into super</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The types of contributions that can be made</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ How a member's total superannuation balance impacts them making contributions</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The operation of the work test and work test exemption</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The timing of contributions to be made into super</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The contribution caps, the bring-forward rule and the ability to split contributions with a spouse</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dealing with excess contributions</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Introducing some other contribution opportunities</li> </ul>

Module 03	Investing in an SMSF · ~1.5 hrs CPD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Creating an SMSF investment strategy</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The requirements of an SMSF investment strategy</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Introducing the Sole Purpose Test</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ How an SMSF can invest and acquire assets</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ An introduction to the SMSF investment restrictions</li> </ul>

Module 04	SMSF Reporting Requirements · ~1.5 hrs CPD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SuperStream and SMSFs</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SMSF quarterly reporting requirements</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SMSF annual reporting requirements</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Member statements</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ An overview of taxing an SMSF</li> </ul>

<b>Module 05</b>	<b>Accessing Super</b> · ~1.5 hrs CPD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The preservation rules, preservation age and conditions of release</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ How benefits can be paid, including lump sums and super income streams</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ An introduction to the Transfer Balance Cap and transfer balance account</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ An introduction to Account Based Pensions</li></ul>

<b>Module 06</b>	<b>Ending the SMSF Lifecycle</b> · ~1.5 hrs CPD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ What triggers the end of the SMSF lifecycle?</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Understanding death benefit requirements</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Winding up an SMSF during the various lifecycle stages</li></ul>

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## Fees

An updated schedule of fees is available on the Smarter SMSF website:

[smartersmsf.com/smsf-foundations-course](https://smartersmsf.com/smsf-foundations-course)

Alternatively, you can get in contact with us:

- By telephone on 1300 95 94 76
- By email at [team@smartersmsf.com](mailto:team@smartersmsf.com)