

2016/2017 Private Health Insurance Tax Statements

– Frequently Asked Questions ...continued

6. Why are my partner and I receiving separate tax statements?

If you're on a family membership, a separate statement will be issued to both you and your partner. This will reflect your share of the contribution paid to GU Health that's eligible for rebate and the rebate you've received (**please refer to the income thresholds table in section 13**). This is because income testing of the Australian Government Rebate on private health insurance requires that the ATO assess each tax payer's rebate entitlement and each adult will need to know their individual contribution amount for their share of the plan, as well as their share of the rebate received.

Unless GU Health has a separate address, the policyholder's partner (if covered under the membership) will have their statement sent to the address listed on the membership (that of the GU Health policyholder).

7. I have separated from my partner (who is/was the policyholder on my GU Health membership). How do I obtain my tax statement?

Please ensure GU Health has your forwarding details so a tax statement can be issued to you. Contact your Member Relations Team on **1800 249 966** to register your mailing address. We'll need to verify your details before updating your membership, so in addition to your new address please remember to provide us with your full name, date of birth, membership number and the GU Health policyholder's name.

If you don't advise GU Health of your new details, your statement will be sent to the address listed under the membership, which is usually the GU Health policyholder's address.

8. What if I make changes to my cover, which are backdated to the previous financial year?

If any retrospective changes are made on your plan that affect the financial status of your membership and/or affect the level of rebate you've claimed under the membership, an amended statement will be issued.

Affected members will be sent an Amended Tax Statement/s in the mail by 8 April and 8 October each year.

GU Health will notify the ATO of these changes; however, please keep in mind that it's your responsibility to let the ATO know of the new tax statement and discuss any potential impact with your registered tax adviser.

9. Why aren't all my family members shown on the tax statement?

Since 1 July 2013, statements have been sent to both the policyholder and their partner (if they're covered by the membership) as required under the relevant legislation. The statement will list the adult beneficiaries but won't include any student or child dependants covered under the membership.

If your dependants are covered under your membership please ensure you declare this when lodging your tax return, as the Medicare Levy Surcharge may apply if appropriate cover is not held by you and all your dependants.

Please note that tax statements provided by GU Health are aligned with the ATO guidelines.

10. I lost my tax statement, how can I obtain another one? If you've lost your tax statement, you can obtain another one by:

- Accessing Online Member Services at guhealth.com.au. This financial year's tax statement will be available online from 15 July 2017. Statements from previous financial year/s are already available online.
- Contacting us by email: corporate@guhealth.com or call **1800 249 966**.

11. I prepaid my contributions. Will this be shown on my tax statement?

If your membership was paid in advance, prior to 1 July 2016, and no contribution amounts were received in the 2016/17 financial year, the amount on the 2016/17 statement will be shown as '0'.

12. Do I need a Tax Claims Statement for the 2016/2017 financial year?

You only need a Tax Claims Statement if you're eligible for the Net Medical Expense Tax Offset (NMETO) in the 2016/2017 financial year. Refer to the ATO for more information.

13. I've received a Lifetime Health Cover Statement that doesn't list my whole family, are they still covered?

Lifetime Health Cover (LHC) is only applicable to individuals over the age of 30. The statement shows who, over age 30, may or may not attract an age-based percentage loading on their hospital cover contribution.

Therefore the LHC Statement only needs to list the policyholder and partner (if over 30), and not your dependants.

GU Health will only be sending LHC Statements to members who have incurred a LHC loading or used any of the permitted 1,094 days without hospital cover allowed under the Private Health Insurance legislation.

Income testing of the Australian Government Rebate on private health insurance

The ATO will assess the private health insurance rebate amount you're entitled to once you lodge your tax return. This will be based on your age and household income, and the assessment will result in either a refund, a liability or a neutral position (that is, neither a refund nor a liability). More information is available on the ATO website: ato.gov.au/privatehealthinsurance

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In 2016/17 the Australian Government Rebate is income tested against the income thresholds set out in the table below:

Income thresholds effective from 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2018

	Base Tier	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Singles	\$90,000 or less	\$90,001 – \$105,000	\$105,001 – \$140,000	\$140,001+
Families	\$180,000 or less	\$180,001 – \$210,000	\$210,001 – \$280,000	\$280,001+

Note: Single parents and couples (including de facto couples) are subject to the family tiers. For families with children, the thresholds are increased by \$1,500 for each child after the first.

The rebate percentages that apply for the 2016/2017 financial year can be found at: guhealth.com.au/my-membership/what-you-need-to-know-about-private-health-insurance under the heading 'Can I claim the Australian Government Rebate on private health insurance?'

14. If I claimed too much or too little rebate, what can I expect to see on my statement?

Your statement from GU Health will only show the share of the rebate (if any) you claimed through your contributions, as well as your share of contributions paid. If you're on a company-funded plan, this will be the contribution paid by your employer for your membership.

Your actual entitlements, as well as any credit or liability in relation to the rebate, will be assessed by the ATO as part of your tax return.

15. How can I claim the Australian Government Rebate on private health insurance?

If you haven't already claimed the rebate as an up-front reduction in your contribution, you may claim it as a tax offset when you lodge your 2016/2017 tax return, provided you're within the income testing thresholds and eligible for a rebate (please refer to the income thresholds table above in section 13).

If you've already claimed the rebate as a reduced contribution throughout the financial year, your Private Health Insurance Tax Statement will show your share of the rebate received and your share of the contribution paid during the financial year. As part of your tax assessment, the ATO will determine if the amount claimed was in line with your entitlements.

16. Who can apply for the Australian Government Rebate and to receive a tax statement?

If you're eligible for Medicare entitlements, are a member of a registered Australian private health fund and covered under a Complying Health Insurance Product [CHIP], and your household income doesn't exceed the income testing threshold set by the Government, you can apply for the rebate.

The rebate is income tested and available on hospital cover, extras cover and combined cover.

Both adults on the membership are entitled to their share of the rebate. You can also apply for the rebate if your employer is paying contributions on your behalf.

The figures on your Private Health Insurance Tax Statement are the contributions paid and processed by GU Health between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2017 (excluding LHC). This may include any additional contributions paid in advance during that period.

If you're a non-resident covered under one of GU Health's Reciprocal Health Care Agreement (RHCA) cover options, you will receive a tax statement and are eligible to apply for the Australian Government Rebate on private health insurance through GU Health. GST and the value of the Medical Benefits component of your cover – a non-complying health insurance product (non-CHIP) – are not included in the contribution calculations on your tax statement. This is because the Australian Government Rebate doesn't apply to the non-CHIP component of your GU Health cover.

The following countries have a Reciprocal Health Care Agreement (RHCA) with Australia: Belgium, Finland, Italy, Malta, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Norway, Republic of Ireland, Slovenia, Sweden and the United Kingdom.
All other countries are considered non-RHCA countries

Members covered under GU Health's non-RHCA covers (including members who may be from RHCA countries but are covered under non-RHCA plans), will not receive tax statements and are not eligible to apply for the Australian Government Rebate through GU Health, as non-RHCA products are not Complying Health Insurance Products (non-CHIP).

17. What if my employer pays for my health insurance?

Even if your employer pays your contributions you may be entitled to the Australian Government Rebate, depending on your Medicare eligibility and income. It's important to note, however, that you may have already claimed the rebate as an up-front reduction in your contribution amount.

Your Private Health Insurance Tax Statement will indicate your share of the rebate claimed. The ATO will determine whether the amount claimed is too little or too much, depending on your age and income as part of your tax assessment.

18. Can I claim the Australian Government Rebate on private health insurance as a tax offset when I salary sacrifice my health insurance contributions?

Provided you meet the rebate eligibility tests, yes. You're still paying your membership contributions whether you're doing so before or after your tax is deducted.

If you're already claiming the rebate and salary sacrificing the reduced contribution amount, the ATO will assess whether you've claimed too much or too little rebate in line with your age and household income.

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19. Why doesn't my Private Health Insurance Tax Statement show an amount equal to my 12 months of membership contributions?

The figures on your Private Health Insurance Tax Statement are the contributions paid and processed by GU Health between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2017 excluding any LHC loading. This may include any additional contributions paid in advance during that period.

If you're from a country that has a RHCA with Australia and covered under a RHCA product, GST and the value of the Medical Benefits component of your cover are not included in the contribution calculations on the tax statements. This is because this medical component is a non-complying health insurance product (non-CHIP) and the Australian Government Rebate doesn't apply to the non-CHIP component of your GU Health cover.

20. Why do the member contributions deducted from my pay differ from the amount shown on my Private Health Insurance Tax Statement?

The figures shown on your Private Health Insurance Tax Statement will take into account only those contributions received and processed by GU Health between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2017.

Any recent contributions deducted from your salary, and those which weren't received and processed prior to 30 June 2017, won't be shown.

21. My payments are not up-to-date as I pay through a group scheme, how will this affect my Private Health Insurance Tax Statement?

The figures shown on your Private Health Insurance Tax Statement will take into account only those contributions received and processed by GU Health between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2017.

22. If I'm not claiming the Australian Government Rebate on private health insurance now, can I claim the rebate as a reduced contribution in the future?

Yes, provided you meet the rebate eligibility tests, all you need to do is fill in the Australian Government Rebate on private health insurance application form and forward it to GU Health.

You can find the form here:

guhealth.com.au/forms-and-publications/all-other-forms.

Please note that the income test applies, and as part of your tax assessment the ATO will determine if the rebate claimed was too much or too little.

If you're covered under an employer-funded corporate health plan, your plan structure and rebate tier may be predetermined by your employer.

You can find the rebate form here:

guhealth.com.au/forms-and-publications/all-other-forms.

23. How can I be exempt from paying the additional Medicare Levy Surcharge (MLS)?

To apply for MLS exemption, you need to be covered by an appropriate level of private hospital cover with a registered Australian health fund under a CHIP (Complying Health Insurance Product). You also need to ensure your plan covers you and all your dependants.

Please note that the MLS is applied on a pro-rata basis. If you and all your dependants were not covered by an appropriate hospital cover for 365 days between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2017, you will only pay the additional levy for that period. The number of days covered by private hospital cover is shown on your Private Health Insurance Tax Statement.

Please keep in mind that for the 2016/17 financial year, the MLS is income tested and applies to those earning above \$90,000 (singles) or \$180,000 (couple/family). There are three income threshold tiers, with the levy falling between 1 per cent and 1.5 per cent. ●

The family income threshold increases by \$1,500 for each dependent child after the first.

Medicare Levy Surcharge (MLS) thresholds effective from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017

	Base Tier	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
All ages	0.0%	1.0%	1.25%	1.5%

Note: Single parents and couples (including de facto couples) are subject to the family tiers. For families with children, the thresholds are increased by \$1,500 for each child after the first.

We're here to help

For assistance or for more information contact our Member Relations Team by email: corporate@guhealth.com.au or call **1800 249 966** between 8.30am to 5pm (AEST), Monday to Friday.

