

Insight

A newsletter to non stipendiary clergy and ngā minita-a-iwi

In this edition of Insight we have something for those who have reached retirement age and for those whose retirement is still in the future.

Health Fund - Level of grants increased; New treatments included

The Health Fund is available to assist clergy over age 65. The Board has conducted a comprehensive review of the Health Fund benefits. There is good news. The Board has:

- increased the grant limits by 25%; and
- added to the treatments that may be claimed for.

These changes apply to treatments which take place *on or after* 1 April 2011.

The new treatments are:

- The Optometry category now includes frames.
- The Home Aid category is expanded to include a grant of up to \$800 per year for in-home carer relief and respite care.
- Dental treatment is added. Assistance is available for dental treatment costs over \$500 per year from a registered oral health practitioner (dentist, dental specialists, dental hygienist, dental technicians, etc).

The dental treatment grant is different from all of the other grants in that the grant available is 20% of the cost of the treatment, up to the stated maximum grant of \$250 per year.

Grants (apart from Dental) are available to cover 80% of the eligible medical costs, up to the stated maximum grant.

The new grant maximums* are:

	OLD	NEW
Angiography and Angioplasty	\$2,000	\$2,500
Dental [20% of cost]	n/a	\$250
Hearing Aids		
One ear ...	\$960	\$1,200
Both ears ...	\$1,600	\$2,000
Home Nursing	\$640	\$800
Hospitalisation (non surgical)	\$960	\$1,200
Imaging – X ray, Ultrasound etc	\$480	\$600
Imaging – CT & MRI Scans	\$640	\$800
In-home Carer Relief / Respite Care	n/a	\$800
Oncology	\$800	\$1,000
Optometry	\$400	\$500
Specialist	\$500	\$625
Surgery	\$2,000	\$2,500

* The maximum grants are per calendar year except for Optometry (2 years) and Hearing Aids (3 years).

65 +

Are you a KiwiSaver?

Congratulations, if you and your family are KiwiSaver members. It's a great way to save for your retirement and as a bonus obtain 'free' money from the Government.

If you are not in KiwiSaver, it's time to think about joining the other 1.6 million Kiwis who have joined KiwiSaver.

You don't have to be employed to join KiwiSaver. It is also available to those not working or self employed.

If you are already in KiwiSaver but not in the Koinonia Fund, maybe it's time to think about transferring to our scheme.

Our KiwiSaver scheme is called the Koinonia Fund. It is a KiwiSaver scheme for people in the Christian community. The Koinonia Fund offers retirement benefits for people who:

- work for a Christian organisation; or
- serve their Christian church; or
- have a commitment to Christian activity/outreach.

and their families.

Belonging to the Koinonia Fund means you will be a member of a scheme with an ethical investment policy that aims to reflect Christian values.

Ethical Investing – what does this mean?

The Board sets guidelines for responsible and ethical investment which include environmental, social, and governance considerations. Amongst other factors this means the Board:

- endeavours to avoid direct investment in:
 - the armament manufacturing, gaming, tobacco, pornography and brewery industries;
 - companies where the activities of the individuals in key positions (eg. the CEO or Chairperson) raise serious ethical concerns;
 - companies with a poor environmental record or consistently bad industrial relations;

- companies where management appears to be excessively concerned with its own remuneration (including by way of loans).
- where feasible and desirable, exercises its voting power in a manner consistent with a socially responsible approach to investment.

What are the current Government KiwiSaver incentives?

- \$1,000 kickstart – this is a one-off payment from the Government the first time you join KiwiSaver.
- If you are over 18 years of age then the Government currently matches your contributions to KiwiSaver dollar for dollar up to a maximum of \$1,042.86 each year.
- If you are making KiwiSaver contributions from your pay then your employer also has to make a contribution for you equal to 2% of your pay (unless they are already paying into another eligible workplace superannuation scheme for you).

**Under
65**

To join KiwiSaver you must:

- Be under the age of eligibility for New Zealand Superannuation (i.e. under age 65); and
- Be a New Zealand citizen or be entitled to stay in New Zealand indefinitely; and
- Be resident in New Zealand.

Joining or transferring to the Koinonia Fund is easy!

Contact the Board and we will send you an Investment Statement and application form.

Complete and return the application form and the Board will do the rest.

