

Fact Sheet: TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIVING (For Over and Above Giving)

From 2011, we have set-up a fund to enable us to receive giving which is tax-deductible. This is the St Matthews Foundation. Currently there are two funds in this foundation; a Welfare fund and a School Scripture Education fund. This fact sheet provides you with information about this Foundation, and how you can give to it.

How does this fund work?

The fund has been set up to receive monies 'over and above' general giving. The fund can be used to cover two types of expenses:

1. OPERATING EXPENSES

A small proportion of the operating expenses incurred by our church qualify for tax deductions with the Australian Tax Office (less than 5%)..

2. CAPITAL EXPENSES

In addition, some of the capital expenses incurred on the kitchen redevelopment also qualify for tax deductability.

What is the difference between the Tax-Deductible Fund and General Giving?

The majority of giving to our church's operating expenses (over 95%) is not eligible for tax-deductibility. Most of our budget is met by general giving received at our weekly gatherings and via electronic means at any time of the week – in other words, we specifically need giving that is not deductible in order to continue to operate. Tax Deductible giving only applies to particular areas of church ministry – Community

Welfare Work such as the Soup Kitchen and our Public School Scripture ministry.

Can I just give to the Tax-Deductible Fund?

Giving to the Tax-Deductible Fund should be over and above general giving. We encourage people who are already giving generously to St Matthews to consider giving an additional gift to the Tax-Deductible Fund. There is a particular opportunity for higher income earners to make use of the tax benefits to extend the reach of their gift. We recommend individual gifts of at least \$500 to this fund, so as to minimise administrative expenses.

How can I give to this fund?

If you would like to give to this fund, please contact the Business Manager Darryl Sessions (darryl@stmattzmanly.org.au). He will provide you with a special St Matthews Foundation card and envelope that you can complete with details of your gift, and then return it to the church office. For the purposes of issuing a tax receipt, it is very important that you supply the contact details requested on the giving card.

Can I give a recurring gift to this fund?

Yes. As mentioned above, to reduce administrative expenses, we recommend individual gifts of at least \$500 to this fund.

Is my information kept private?

Absolutely. Your information will only be available to the Finance team (Business Manager, Treasurer, Accountant and Senior Minister). Your gift will be processed online, using industry-standard security protocols. For more information, please refer to our Privacy Statement available on our website.

Will I receive a tax receipt?

Yes. At the end of the financial year you will receive a tax receipt.

What about Employer Matching?

Some employers will match your contributions to Community or Not-For-Profit Organisations (i.e. the Tax-Deductible Fund). Speak with your employer to see if this matching is offered, and if our Tax-Deductible Fund meets your employer's criteria.

Questions?

For more information about this fund, please contact the Business Manager Darryl Sessions (darryl@stmattzmanly.org.au).

Legal

In legal terms the St Matthews Foundation operates the Tax Deductible Fund. It has been endorsed by the Australian Tax Office as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) effective from 11 February 2011. The trustees are Tim Evans, Justin Bott (Wardens) and Martyn Mitchell (Treasurer).