

EURASIAN COMMUNITY FUND [ECF]
Frequently Asked Questions



1. How do I contribute to Eurasian Community Fund (ECF)?

Contribution is simple, under The Central Provident Fund (Amendment) Act 1992, employers are required to automatically deduct contributions from the salaries of their employees, unless they opt out. Alternatively, if you are not a CPF member or you prefer to make your contributions through GIRO, you should complete the GIRO form on our website and submit this to the Eurasian Association.

2. Can I increase the contribution amount? Can I subsequently rescind the option to increase the contribution amount?

Yes. You can obtain prescribed forms from the Eurasian Association and use them to inform your employer of your wish to increase your monthly contributions above the prescribed minimum rates. Forms are also available for you to subsequently rescind this option to increase the contribution. However, this cannot be done for at least 6 months after the option to increase the contribution was exercised. Your employer will be required to send a copy of these forms to the Eurasian Association.

3. Can I decrease the contribution amount?

No. The contribution amount cannot be decreased below the prescribed minimum rates.

4. How do I opt out of the ECF?

We hope you will not choose to opt out of the scheme. However, should you wish to do so, you will have to write to the Eurasian Association to obtain the prescribed opting out form and inform your employer using this form. The form should bear the official Eurasian Association stamp and endorsing signature. Your employer will be required to send a copy of the form to the Eurasian Association.

5. If I have opted out of the ECF, can I re-join subsequently?

Yes. You can obtain the prescribed forms available from the Eurasian Association and use them to inform your employer of your wish to contribute to ECF. Your employer will be required to send a copy of the form to the Eurasian Association.

6. If I am employed by more than one employer or I resign from one employer and join another within the same month, do I have to contribute through each employer?

Yes. You will be required to contribute through each employer based on the wages each employer pays you unless you opt out of the scheme from any of the employers.

7. If I am on leave or posted overseas for more than a month, will I be required to contribute during my absence?

Yes. You are required to contribute as long as you continue to contribute to CPF during your absence.

8. Will the Eurasian Association entertain claims for refund or payments made in excess/error?

Yes. If the Eurasian Association is satisfied that any contribution has in fact been paid in error to the ECF. The period to claim for refund due to error is one year from the date on which the ECF contribution was paid by an employee. In addition, the Eurasian Association will also consider refund of payments for contributions that were inadvertently deducted for the month of April 1995 because employers were unable to submit the opting out form in time.

9. Am I required to make back payment for ECF if I have not been contributing or contributing a lesser amount?

Back payment is not required. However, if you wish to back pay or top up the difference you may do so from the current year (i.e. January onwards) and can make the payment to CPF Board in your next contribution submission.

10. Are contributions to ECF tax deductible?

Yes, as the Eurasian Association has been accorded IPC (Institution of Public Character) and Charitable Institution status.

11. Where do I contact for more information on the ECF?

For further information, you may call the Eurasian Association at 6447 1578 or e-mail secretariat@eurasians.org

The Eurasian Community House
139 Ceylon Road, Singapore 429744
<http://www.eurasians.org.sg>