

## SMSF Core Course

The SMSF Core Course has been designed to be a practical and relevant educational experience for advisers in the SMSF field. Our aim is to present the best SMSF Core Course available as we involve the services of Australia's leading law firm [DBA Lawyers](#) to prepare the extensive materials and present the seminars.

### **Summary of units:**

The course focuses on what advisers must know to be effective in the SMSF field. The following units are the core aspects of SMSF knowledge today:

Unit	SMSF Core Course
1	SMSF fundamentals and regulation
2	Making and maintaining investments
3	Contributions
4	Lump sums and accessing benefits
5	Pensions
6	Taxation of SMSFs
7	Members' estate and SMSF succession planning
8	Binding death benefit nominations
9	SMSFs structuring
10	Limited recourse borrowing arrangements

The course can be undertaken via online recordings or by attending a two-day workshop.

### **Attendees must review the relevant chapter before the workshop/seminar**

There is a considerable array of reading material relating to this course. Pre-reading of this material is mandatory to ensure that you get the maximum from this course. That is, before reviewing the recorded seminar for unit one or for those attending the two-day workshop, you must review the materials.

We also include realistic and practical case studies throughout our training materials. We strongly recommend that, after reading the material, you prepare answers to each case study for the relevant unit before reviewing the recording for that unit. The recording/workshop will provide the model answers. There is no need to submit your prepared case study answers; you can self-assess your performance by comparing the answers provided during each recording/workshop to your prepared responses. Typically, the model answer is kept brief as the presenter highlights the key parts of the material where the detail for each solution lies.

For those attending the two-day workshop, we also strongly recommend that you read the material well beforehand and that you prepare answers to each case study for the relevant unit before attending the workshop.

The materials also provide you with a useful research resource to use in your day-to-day practice.

### ***Online option***

If you choose the online course, you can review the material for the relevant unit before viewing the online presentation for that unit. The online course therefore lends itself to self-paced learning which provides flexibility to suit your timetable.

Note that a significant discount applies for those who have registered for the online course and who also wish to attend our two-day Melbourne workshop. For the Melbourne workshop, an \$880 cost applies for those who have completed the online SMSF Core Course in the past three years.

### ***2 day face-to-face workshop option***

Alternatively, you may choose the two-day face-to-face workshop, which requires you to review all the materials for units 1 to 10 prior to attending.

This course provides great flexibility. Some attend the online recorded sessions, for instance, for self-paced learning and may also wish to attend the two-day workshop to fast-track their learning. Alternatively, some attend the workshop and may then wish to attend the online course in order to refresh their skills.

Many of our past attendees have enjoyed the workshop environment where they interact with other advisers, work collaboratively in resolving complex practical case studies and 'brain storm' difficult technical queries with other advisers.

You choose what works best for you as the time and cost of attending a workshop may result in the online being your preferred option.

### ***If you attend the workshop, can you also review the online recordings?***

A significant discount is also available for those who wish to register for the online course after attending the workshop. Many like to do a refresher in subsequent years to make sure they are keeping on top of their learning and the wide range of ongoing developments and legislative changes. Naturally, you obtain the latest materials when you subsequently register. The cost of undertaking the online course within 3 years of attending a DBA Network two-day workshop is \$880.

### ***Should you attend the workshop or enrol for the online option?***

The course content and materials are the same under both options. The following summarises the key differences to assist you in making this choice:

#### **Online**

Self-paced over a maximum 12-month period.

You must review the materials for the relevant unit (eg, unit 1: SMSF fundamentals and regulation) before viewing the relevant online seminar (eg, the recorded presentation for unit

#### **Workshop**

Two-day Melbourne workshop in July (we can present in other locations if sufficient attendees can be organised).

You must review all the material for all 10 units prior to the workshop (eg, units 1 to 10). This reading is estimated to take at least 3 to 5 hours per unit depending on your familiarity with the material and reading speed.

1). The online option therefore lends itself to self-paced learning which suits your timetable.

Online recordings can be viewed, paused and replayed up to 3 times to suit your learning needs. You can review the material while pausing the presentation to ensure you fully understand a topic. This learning can be supplemented by the 'help line' service.

There is no travel, accommodation and related expenses and the extra time involved with attending a face to face event.

The workshop seeks to involve you in answering practical problems in a group environment (ie, learn from others while we 'brain storm' case studies in a group setting). You can also access the 'help line' service.

Some view the 'traditional face-to-face' method as the best method to focus the mind and to assist learning and retention of knowledge.

### **CPD Points**

This course counts towards your CPD points for most professional bodies. The course has been specifically certified by the SMSF Association ('SMSFA'). A CPD certificate is issued on completion of all 10 units confirming the CPD points in respect of each professional body including the SMSFA, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand ('CAANZ'), Certified Practising Accountants ('CPA'), Institute of Public Accountants ('IPA') and the Tax Practitioners Board ('TPB').

Please email us on completion of the 10 units or if you are just doing a single unit(s) for your CPD certificate.

### **Does your attendance count towards RG 146?**

This course also contributes towards your RG146 if you require this qualification in relation to the Australian Financial Services Licence ('AFSL') which many SMSF advisers now seek. [Integrity Education](#) is a registered training organisation which offers supplementary training in a dovetailed manner where we have negotiated a special arrangement for our attendees to obtain their RG146 certification following successful completion of the SMSF Core Course.

### **Become an SMSF Specialist Advisor™**

The SMSF Association's accreditation program offers advisers specialising in the SMSF sector an independent certification of their competence, independence, experience and knowledge. DBA Network's SMSF Core Course positions advisers with the fundamental skills and in-depth, technical knowledge to become an **SMSF Specialist Advisor™**. Thus, through accreditation, Specialist Members can promote their SMSF specialisation in the marketplace via the **SMSF Specialist Advisor™ (SSA™)** brand.

A discount of \$250 off the usual SMSF Core Course registration fee applies to attendees who both complete the full DBA Network SMSF Core Course and enrol in the SMSF Association's SMSF Specialist Advisor (SSA) Express or Pathway Program to become a SSA™, subject to certain terms and conditions. Similarly, the SMSF Association offers a discount off its usual price for the SSA Express and Pathway Programs to attendees who enrol in DBA Network's SMSF Core Course.

### **Further reading resources**

The materials provide a great research resource and provide hypertext links to further reading in each unit.

Note, that both [CCH/Wolters Kluwer](#) and [Thomson Reuters](#) also provide relevant superannuation legislation and other technical resources. CCH/WK publishes the Australian Master Superannuation Guide which provides a good overview. Thomson Reuters also publishes the Australian Superannuation Handbook. These are available in hard copy or via on-line subscriptions. Both publishers also offer superannuation legislation if you require a hard copy.

Legislation and regulations are also available for free on line at The Federal Register of Legislation <https://www.legislation.gov.au/> and [Austlii](#).

***We appreciate any feedback***

We welcome your feedback on how we may improve the course in any aspect as well as your learning experience. Thanks for your interest. Please email or call us if you have any queries.

***Further information***

<http://www.dbanetwork.com.au/dbalawyers/seminars3/2712/3722/SMSF-Core-Course.html>

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