

NHS PENSION BRIEFING



Introduction

This short briefing has been produced in response to a motion to the CSP's Annual Representative Conference 2018.

The CSP does not currently offer guidance to members about pensions. This briefing summarises some key points about the NHS pension schemes and otherwise directs members to the relevant sections of the NHS business services authority pages on the NHS pension scheme. It also highlights where information can be found to deal with some of the regularly occurring questions that crop up around the NHS pension scheme.

Key features

From 1 April 2015 members of the 1995 or 2008 sections of the NHS pension scheme without 'full' or 'tapered protection' moved to the new 2015 pension scheme

Some of the main features of the new scheme are:

- It is a type of defined benefit scheme which provides pension benefits based on a formula related to your average earnings.
- It is a Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) scheme, rather than a final salary scheme where benefits are built up on the value of your pensionable earnings each year you are working in the NHS and contributing to the pension.
- The pension accrual rate is 1/54th of pensionable earnings each year. There is no limit on the amount of pensionable membership which can be built up.
- Each year's pension earned will increase every year in value by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) plus 1.5 % per year.
- The age at which benefits can be claimed without reduction for early payment your normal pension age is the same age as your State Pension Age.
- Pension benefits already built up in the 1995 and 2008 sections will be retained and calculated by reference to your final pay at retirement.
- You will not be able to access your 2015 benefits without reduction for early payment until your normal pension age for the 2015 pension scheme.

Frequently Asked Questions

What happens to my pension if I leave the NHS?

[Find out more on the NHS Pensions website](#)

When will I be able to get my State pension?

[Find out on the Government website](#)

How do I find out what scheme I am in?

As the NHS pension moved to a new Scheme in 2015 employees who were members of the scheme prior to that date may well be members in more than one scheme. You can view your pension details through your total reward statement at work or can register for the government gateway (<http://www.gateway.gov.uk/>) and see your NHS pension details there.

How much does it cost to be in the NHS pension scheme?

[Find out more on the NHS Pensions website](#)

How can I get a pension statement

[Find out more on the NHS Pensions website](#)

What will I pay if I am part time?

[Find out more on the NHS Pensions website](#)

I'm a part time worker, FAQ's

[Find out more on the NHS Pensions website](#)

I now have service in the 2015 scheme, where can I find out about that?

[Watch this NHS Business Services Authority video](#)

Most of my service is in the 1995 Scheme, where can I find out about that?

[Watch this NHS Business Services Authority video](#)

I am a member of the 2008 scheme, where can I find out about that?

[Watch this NHS Business Services Authority video](#)

More resources

Active and deferred Scheme members are provided with an Annual Benefit Statement through the [Total Reward Statement portal](#). They are also known as a Total Reward Statements.

[The NHS Business Services Authority NHS pension scheme member hub](#)

[Guide on overview of 1995-2008 scheme \(NHS Business Services Authority\)](#)

[Guide on the 2015 scheme \(NHS Business Services Authority\)](#)

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