

Overview of Single Pension Scheme

Am I a member of this Pension Scheme?

The Scheme was introduced across the public service on 1 January 2013. In general, anyone employed in a pensionable post in the public service from that date for the first time is a member of the Scheme.

It may also apply if you were a pensionable public service employee before 1 January 2013 and subsequently broken your public service employment link subsequent to that date, by more than 26 consecutive weeks unless availing of an approved form of leave.

If you are not sure if you are a member of the Single Pension Scheme, the information may be on your payslip or noted on your Contract of Employment. Your employer will be able to confirm this information to you if you are still not sure.

Is there a qualifying period for benefits?

To be eligible to receive a benefit under the Scheme, you must have paid into the Scheme for 24 months or more.

What benefits does the Single Scheme provide?

If you complete the qualifying period, some of the benefits that may be payable under the Scheme include:

- ▶ Annual pension and lump sum on retirement
- ▶ Death Benefits which may include a pension if you are survived by an eligible Spouse, Civil Partner or dependent children.

You can find more information on these benefits in the Scheme Information Booklet or in other At-a-Glance guides.

How do I build up benefits under the Scheme?

The Single Pension Scheme is a career-average defined benefit pension scheme.

You build up two types of benefits, called referable amounts, each time you get paid while you are a member of the Scheme. Your pensionable earnings largely determine how much you earn as referable amounts in each pay period.

In each pay period, you build up benefit amounts towards:

- ▶ your retirement lump sum; and
- ▶ your annual retirement pension.

For amounts earned during earlier years of your membership of the Scheme, these may be increased in subsequent years to take into account inflation.

You can find comprehensive examples of how retirement benefits are calculated, for either a full-time member or a part-time member, in your Scheme Information Booklet.

Further Information

You can find more general information, including a copy of your **Scheme Information Booklet**, in the members' area of the Single Scheme website at www.singlepensionscheme.gov.ie/for-members/

If you have any specific questions or need further help, you should contact your employer's Pension Officer who will be able to assist you.