

Annual Allowance - Pension Savings Statement FAQ

Please make sure you have read the Annual Allowance Pension Savings Statement Guide on the Annual Allowance pages of our website.

Q1. Why have you sent me a statement?

A. We have sent you a pension savings statement for one of the following five reasons:

1. Growth in your NHS pension benefits is more than the standard annual allowance; either in the 1995/2008 NHS Pension Scheme or the 2015 NHS Pension Scheme.
2. You are a member of the 1995/2008 and 2015 NHS Pension Schemes and the total pension growth across both NHS schemes is more than the standard annual allowance.
3. You, or a third party, asked us for a statement. If a third party asked us we are legally required to send the statement to you. It is up to you to pass the statement onto the third party who asked for it on your behalf.
4. You, or third party, asked us for a revised statement due to a notification of amended data from your employer.
5. You are a medical, ophthalmic or dental practitioner. We know that a significant number of our practitioner members may have pensionable savings in other pension schemes outside the NHS.

Q2. When will I receive a statement?

A. Provided we have received all the necessary membership and pensionable pay information from your NHS employer by 6 July to calculate the growth in your NHS pension benefits we will write to you by the 6 October if the growth is more than the standard annual allowance.

Q3. I have not received a statement by 6 October and my annual allowance is reduced to an amount lower than the standard annual allowance. What should I do?

A. If you have a reduced annual allowance, either because you are subject to the tapered or alternative annual allowance, then you can contact us and ask for an on demand statement.

Please confirm the relevant tax year you want the on demand statement for when you contact us.

Q4. I have not received a statement by 6 October and I am a member of another pension scheme. What should I do?

A. In order to assess if you have an annual allowance tax charge you will need to contact all your pension scheme providers for an on demand statement. Contact us to ask for an on demand statement confirming the relevant tax year you want the on demand statement for.

Q5. When will I receive an on demand statement?

A. If you, or a third party, have asked us for a statement, provided we have received all the membership and pensionable pay information from your NHS employer by 6 July to calculate the growth in your NHS pension benefits, we should write to you by 6 October or within three months of receiving your on demand statement, whichever date is the later.

Q6. Will my pension savings statement show my tapered or alternative annual allowance?

A. No. We are only required to send you a statement if your pension growth is more than the standard annual allowance, unless you request an on demand statement. The statement will only confirm the standard annual allowance.

Q7. I am a member of both the 1995/2008 and 2015 NHS Pension Schemes what will I receive?

A. If you are a member of the 1995/2008 and the 2015 NHS Pension Schemes, and the growth in your pension benefits across both schemes is more than the standard annual allowance, you will receive two separate statements, one from each NHS scheme.

Q8. I have received one statement when will I receive the second statement?

A. The bulk of the pension savings statements are issued in batches in the run up to the 6 October deadline date. Because of this you are more likely receive the statements on different days.

Q9. What should I do if I do not receive my second statement by 6 October?

A. should contact us and ask for an on demand statement confirming which NHS scheme and relevant tax year you want this for.

Q10. What do you need from my NHS employer in order to send me a statement?

A. We need all the necessary year-end membership and pensionable pay information from your NHS employer to calculate the growth in your NHS pension benefits. If your NHS employer has not updated us we will be unable to calculate the growth.

Your employer should update us with this information by 6 July to enable us to calculate the growth in your NHS pension benefits.

Q11. What happens if my NHS employer sends you the necessary year-end information after 6 July?

A. This will delay our calculations and your statement of one is required or has been requested. If you meet one of the five reasons in Q1, we aim to send you a statement within three months of us receiving the information from your NHS employer.

Q12. I am a medical practitioner what information do you need from me?

A. You need to complete your Annual Certificate of Pensionable Profit, within our deadlines, and make sure that your certified pensionable earnings have been sent to us. We can then calculate the growth in your NHS pension benefits and aim to send you a statement within three months of us receiving the information.

Q13. I am a medical practitioner and you have sent me a statement before I have completed my Annual Certificate of Pensionable Profit. What should I do?

A. If we receive uncertified earnings when you have not left the NHS Scheme this may result in you receiving a statement based on these 'estimated' earnings.

When you have completed your annual certificate and you know that your certified year-end earnings have been sent to us you will then need to contact us to ask for a revised statement. A revised statement will not be automatically sent.

Q14. I have no carry forward figures shown in my statement?

A. Either you joined or moved to the 2015 NHS Pension Scheme during the relevant tax year or you were a deferred member for all the previous pension input periods.

If you were deferred the growth for these years is nil and you may have all the annual allowance from this year to carry forward, subject to growth in another pension scheme.

Q15. I have a pension input year missing in my carry forward figures. What does this mean?

A. You were probably a deferred member for the entire pension input period.

The growth during the missing pension input period is nil and therefore you may have all the annual allowance to carry forward, subject to growth in another pension scheme.

Q16. Why does my statement show a growth of £0.00?

A. A £0.00 entry for growth in one of the pension input periods could mean that there is a negative difference between the opening value and the closing value, this may be because:

- your pensionable pay used to calculate NHS benefits for the opening value is higher than that used to calculate NHS benefits for the closing value; or

- growth in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), used in the calculation of the opening value, outweighs the actual growth of your NHS benefits.

Q17. Why is this statement different to the one I have already received in a previous year?

A. Following feedback from our members we have made some changes to the statement. From 2017/2018 the statement letter is a lot shorter with the important information pages now available in the Pension Savings Statement Guide available on our website.

Q18. Why has my pension been calculated using pro-rata pensionable pay and membership?

A. We do this because the pension input period is from 6 April to 5 April however the information we receive from your NHS employer is for a scheme year, 1 April to 31 March. Therefore we need to calculate the pension for the five days, 1 April to 5 April, using the Scheme year information.

Q19. What should I do if my pensionable pay or membership changes?

A. If there is a change to your pensionable pay or membership your NHS employer must inform us. You will then need to write to us to request a revised statement – a revised statement will not be issued until we receive a request from you.

Q20. I am also a member of the NHS Money Purchase AVC Scheme; will I receive a pension savings statement for this?

A. We will send you a statement if your pension contributions to the NHS Money Purchase AVC Scheme during the pension input period are more than the standard or money purchase annual allowance.

Q21. I have heard that you have to report members who exceed the annual allowance – is this true?

A. Yes. We must report details of anyone who exceeds the standard annual allowance in the 1995/2008 or 2015 NHS Pension Schemes and the standard and money purchase annual allowance in the NHS Money Purchase AVC Scheme.

Q22. What information do you give to HMRC?

HMRC requires the following, your name; National Insurance number and the aggregated pension input amounts for the 1995/2008 and/or 2015 NHS Pension Scheme. In addition, if you are subject to the money purchase annual allowance, the aggregate pension input amounts for your NHS MPAVC Scheme.