

NHS Pensions - Re-employment FAQs

Q. If a member is already in receipt of pension benefits will the changes to the NHS Pension Scheme from April 2008 affect them?

A. If their pension started on or before 1 April 2008 the changes will not affect their pension or benefits for dependants.

Q. If a member retires after 1 April 2008 from the 1995 Section, do they still have to take a 24 hour break before returning to employment, and work less than 16 hours per week in the first calendar month to avoid their pension being suspended?

A. Yes, the same rules apply. In addition, they are only eligible to re-join the scheme if they retired on ill health grounds and are under age 50 when they return to pensionable employment. **Exception** – if they were a 1995 Section member retiring on or after 1 April 2008 and before 1 October 2009 and were not eligible to rejoin the 1995 Section, they may be eligible to join the Pension Scheme if they become re-employed in the NHS. To be eligible, they must not have reached the maximum service limit of 45 years, or the upper age limit of 75. In addition, they must wait at least two years from the date of retirement before they are eligible to re-join the Scheme; the break is called a waiting period.

Q. If a member retired before 1 April 2008, can they be pensionable in re-employment?

A. They are only eligible to re-join the scheme if they retired on ill health grounds and were under age 50 when they return to pensionable employment.

Q. Who is responsible for adjusting the pension if necessary on re-employment?

A. NHS Pensions are responsible for making any adjustments.

Q. Where can I find additional information about working after retirement?

A. The Retirement Guide for members of the NHS Pension Scheme can be found on our website.