

NHS Pensions - Which Scheme Access Application Form do I need to complete?

You may apply to become an Employing Authority and be granted access to the NHS Pension Scheme through one of the following Scheme Access routes:

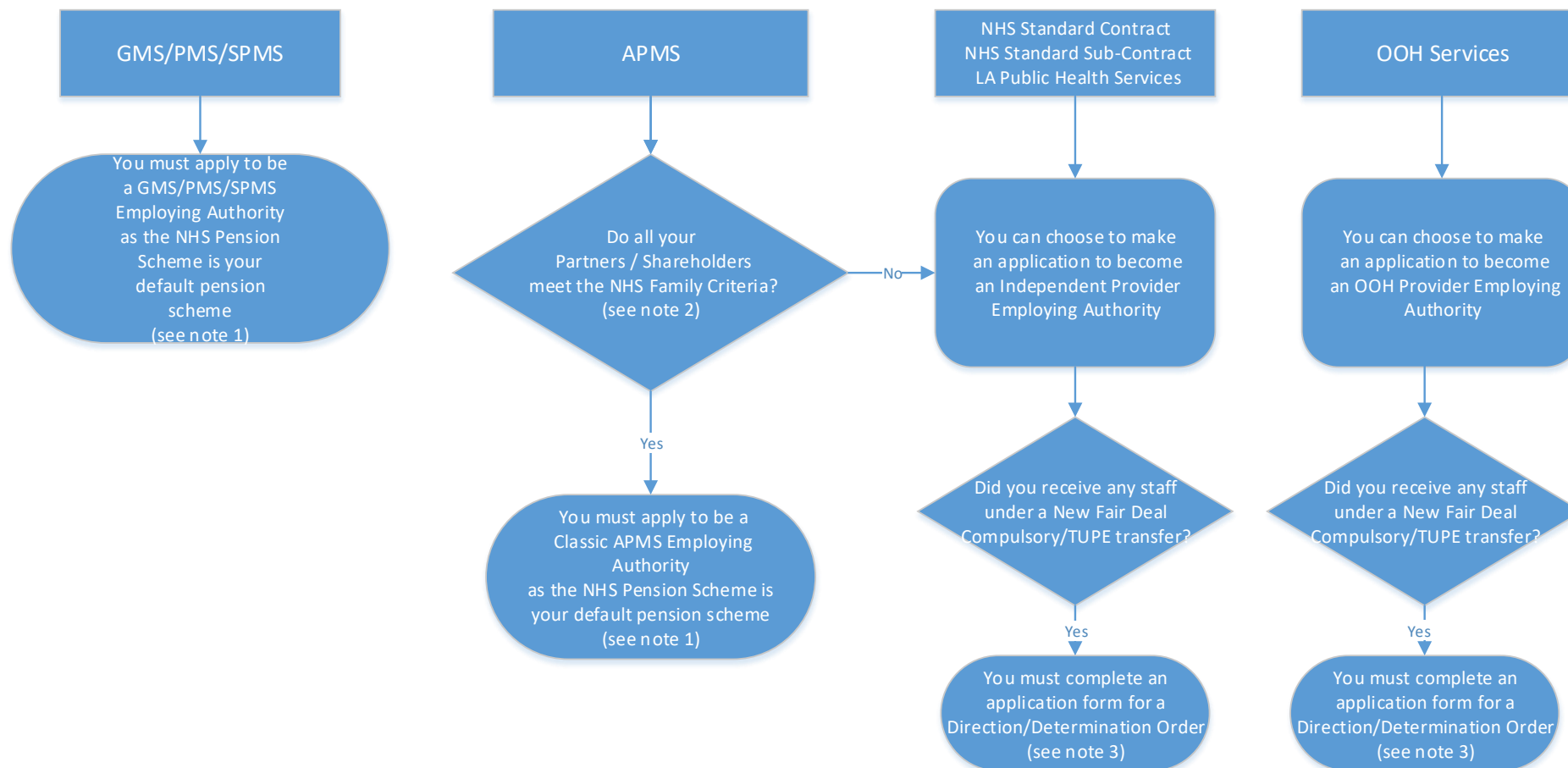
- As a GMS / PMS / Provider
- As an APMS Provider
- As an Independent Provider
- As an Out of Hours Provider
- As a Direction or New Fair Deal Employer.

If your organisation holds any of the contracts listed below, please follow the chart to decide which application form you need to complete.

- Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS)
- General Medical Services (GMS)
- Personal Medical Services (PMS) /
- NHS Standard Contract
- NHS Standard Sub-Contract
- Local Authority Public Health Services Contract (LA)
- Any contract to solely provide Out of Hours Services

If you have transferred staff in as part of a TUPE transfer you may also need to apply for a Direction or Determination Order

All application forms can be found on our website under Employer Hub, Access to the NHS Pension Scheme.



Note 1

Holders of GMS and PMS contracts and Classic APMS Contractors that are awarded NHS Standard Contracts, NHS Standard Sub-Contracts and Local Authority Public Health Services contracts can absorb the income and do not need to apply for a new Employing Authority status. If additional GMS, PMS or APMS contracts are awarded a separate application must be made for each contract.

Note 2

NHS Family Criteria. All Partners and Shareholders must be one of the following: A healthcare professional that is a member of the General Medical Council, a healthcare professional that is a member of a regulated governing body (e.g. Nursing & Midwifery Council), a person who is a contractor on another English or Welsh GMS Contract or PMS Agreement, this can be as a Named Contractor, a partner in a Named Partnership or a Shareholder in a Named Limited Company, a person that is an NHS Employee employed by an NHS Trust or NHS Foundation Trust.

Note 3

An organisation that is not eligible to be either a Classic GMS / PMS Provider or a Classic APMS Provider that receives employees as part of a TUPE transfer must make an application for a Direction /Determination Order as this will ensure the members retain their “Golden Thread” (protection of eligibility to be in the NHS Pension Scheme) if they are included in a TUPE or compulsory transfer in the future. This rule applies even if an organisation chooses not to be an Independent Provider Employing Authority / OOHs Provider Employing Authority.