



The Teachers' Pension Scheme is changing from **1 April 2015.**

Bereavement and nominations

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Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme is changing from 1 April 2015.

The new arrangements will see the introduction of career average as well as final salary arrangements.

This factsheet provides you with guidance about what happens to your benefits after you die and how to nominate someone to receive them.

Death grants

Nominations

If you are married, have a civil partner or have a previously nominated partner, they will automatically receive any death grant that is payable after you die. You can decide to nominate someone else to receive the death grant if you want to.

If you are unmarried or do not have a civil partner you can nominate someone of your choosing if you haven't nominated anyone to receive the grant, otherwise any death grant will be paid into your estate.

You can nominate more than one person but you must tell Teachers' Pensions what proportion of the death grant you want each person to receive.

To nominate someone to receive any death grant, you should complete the appropriate form which is available on our website. To access the form you will need to have a My Pension Online account, to register by going to our [website](#).



What if I get married or register a civil partnership after I make a death grant nomination?

If you get married or register a civil partnership it does not cancel your nomination. If you do not want your current nominee to receive the death grant then you need to go on to our website and amend your nomination..



What if I no longer want my nominee to receive the death grant?

You can cancel a nomination at any time by contacting Teachers' Pensions in writing to say you no longer want your nominee to receive any death grant payment.

If you had more than one nominee you will need to consider if you need to reallocate the proportions each nominee will receive.

It is up to you to remember to keep your nominations up to date otherwise the money could go to the wrong person.

Death grant payments

So how much will my beneficiary or nominee receive if I die in service?

If you are in career average like Katy or Dianne and die in service, a death grant of three times your final **full-time equivalent** earnings (at your date of death) will be paid. If you are a protected member like Andy and are in the final salary arrangement when you die then the death grant would be three times your final **average** salary. If you are a tapered member like Haroon and you are still in final salary, then the death grant would be based on three times your **average** salary. However, if you have passed your transition date then the death grant payment would be three times your **final salary**.



Katy the new starter



Dianne the transition member



Andy the protected member with an NPA of 60



Haroon the tapered member



If I am retired what will my beneficiary or nominee receive?

If you are a pensioner like Basil, then provided your pension has been in payment for less than five years, a death grant will be paid that is equal to five times your annual pension less any pension you have received. This is the same for all pensioners regardless of whether they were in final salary or career average.



Basil the FS pensioner member



Karl the CA pensioner member

If I am retired but have come back into pensionable employment what will my beneficiary or nominee receive?

If you are a re-employed pensioner like Karl then an in-service death grant will be paid, less any lump sum previously paid. In addition, if your pension has been in payment for less than five years, a death grant equal to five times your annual pension, less any pension you have received, will also be paid.

Family pensions

Nominations

If you are married or have a civil partner they will automatically receive any family pension that is payable after you die.

If you are unmarried you can nominate either a partner or close relative who is financially dependent on you to receive a pension.

If you want to nominate a partner, you must be able to marry or register a civil partnership and be financially interdependent. A pension will only be paid if you have been living together for at least two years when you die. To nominate a partner you can complete the form on our website. To access the form you will need to have a My Pension Online account, to register go to our [website](#).

You can nominate a parent, step-parent, brother or sister, provided that they are either unmarried, widowed, not a civil partner or cohabiting with another person as husband and wife or as civil partners. Your nominee must be wholly or mainly financially dependent on you. You can complete a nomination form on our [website](#).

It is up to you to remember to keep your nomination up to date. When any application for a pension is received, checks will be undertaken to ensure that the criteria is still met.



Karl
the CA
pensioner
member



Basil
the FS
pensioner
member



Family pension payments

How much pension will my family receive if I die?

If you are in-service when you die your employer will pay any adult beneficiary your salary for three months. If you are a pensioner like Karl or Basil Teachers' Pensions will continue to pay any adult beneficiary your pension for three months. If you are out of service, a short term pension is not payable.

If you have dependent children and an adult beneficiary is receiving a short term pension, then your children will also receive a short term pension for three months. If there is no adult beneficiary then your children will receive a short term pension for six months.

If you have no more than two children then they will receive half of any adult's short term pension. If you have more than two children the adult's pension is divided by the number of children.

What happens after the short term pension ends?

After the short term pension ends a long term pension is put into payment. If you are in career average like Katy and are in-service when you die, your beneficiary's pension will be enhanced. The long term pension in these circumstances is the value of 37.5% of the pension you have earned up to your date of death plus enhancement. The enhancement is half of your prospective service to normal pension age multiplied by 1/57th of your final full time equivalent annual pensionable earnings. If you are not in-service then the pension will not be enhanced.

If you are a transition member like Dianne, your long term family pension will be based on your final salary service times your average salary, divided by 160. This is then paid together with your career average long term pension. That pension is calculated like Katy's and is 37.5% of the pension you have accrued up to your date of death. If you are in-service then enhancement will be added to your career average pension only. This enhancement is half of your prospective service to normal pension age multiplied by 1/57th of your final full time equivalent annual pensionable earnings.

If you are a tapered member like Haroon and die in service the long term pension that your beneficiary will receive will depend on whether or not you have passed your transition date. If you have not passed your transition date the pension will be 1/160 of your average salary times your family benefit service plus enhancement (calculated in line with the current final salary arrangements). If you have passed your transition date then like Dianne, two pensions will be calculated, but they will be paid together.

If you are a protected member like Andy or Darren the long term pension will be 1/160 of your average salary times your family benefit service plus enhancement, calculated in line with the existing final salary arrangements. If you die out of service or after retirement your benefits will not be enhanced.



Katy the new starter



Dianne the transition member



Haroon the tapered member



Andy the protected member with an NPA of 60



Darren the protected member with an NPA of 65

How long will my family continue to receive a pension?

If you were in-service on or after 1 January 2007 any adult pension will be paid for your beneficiary's lifetime. If you were not in service on or after 1 January 2007 then any adult pension will cease if they remarry, register a civil partnership or are cohabiting with another person as husband and wife or as civil partners.

Your children will receive a pension as long as they are under age 17. Once they are over age 17, if they are receiving full-time education and have received full-time education since reaching the age of 17, their pension will stop when they reach age 23.

For information and resources to help you understand the changes to the Teachers' Pension Scheme visit www.teacherspensions.co.uk/change2015