



# Benefits Applicable to Pensioners

(Where this document refers to the male gender, the other genders are deemed to be included.)  
Italicised terms are defined in paragraph 7.)

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HEMIS classification	
Aim	To set out the benefits that apply to employees who retire from SU's employ
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## The essence of the policy

Sets out the benefits that apply to employees who retire from the employ of Stellenbosch University (SU).

### 1. *Spouse's* insurance scheme

The *spouse's* cover scheme offers life insurance to be paid to members upon the death of their *spouse*. Up until members reach the age of 65, their *spouse's* life is insured for coverage that equals twice the member's annual *pension-bearing amount*. Thereafter the cover amount decreases by 25%. In addition to life insurance, members' *spouses* are also covered for disability until the *spouse* reaches the age of 60.

The underwriter determines the amount that contributions to this scheme come to annually, and collects it in monthly payments from the members via the employer. Members pay the full premium themselves.

The insured amount must be paid to the members.

(Definitions of 'pension-bearing amount' and 'spouse' are provided at the end of this document, at 7.4 and 7.5 respectively.)

### 2. Group life insurance

The group life insurance scheme offers life insurance of five times the annual *pension-bearing amount* to be paid upon a member's death. Once members have reached the age of 65, the amount of this life cover decreases by 25%. The insured amount usually are paid to the *dependants* indicated on a valid nomination form or mentioned in a valid testament.

The underwriter determines the amount that contributions to this scheme come to annually, and collects it in monthly payments from the members via the employer. SU contributes 40% of premium costs related to membership of this scheme.

The group life insurance scheme includes no disability cover.

### 3. Medical scheme

3.1 General conditions regarding membership of the medical scheme:

3.1.1 Neither members nor any of their *dependants* may belong to SU's medical scheme as well as another registered medical scheme simultaneously.

3.1.2 When members die their *dependant(s)* who have been registered as their *dependant(s)* at the time of their death are offered the opportunity to remain members of the medical scheme. From that point onwards, the deceased pensioner's lawful *spouse* – or, if no *spouse* is involved, the eldest of the former member's registered *dependants* – may be regarded as the main member of the medical scheme. If the deceased pensioner qualified for a Council's contribution, the new main member will also qualify. If a *spouse* who became a member in the above manner should remarry, the Council's contribution will

cease as far as the *spouse* is concerned. Regarding other registered *dependants*, the Council's contribution is retained in such circumstances.

3.1.3 Employees who are medically disabled will be treated as SU employees until they leave the University's employ on pension. Thereafter the rules will apply as in the case of pensioner members.

### 3.2 Cancellation of membership

Pensioner members who terminate their membership of SU's medical scheme will not be allowed to re-join this scheme.

### 3.3 Determining Council's contributions to medical premiums after retirement:

3.3.1 Main members who were appointed at SU *before* 1 September 1997, or who were appointed between 1 September 1997 and 31 May 2002 and who have 20 years' uninterrupted service when they retire, will receive a Council's contribution regarding themselves upon their retirement; so, too, will their *dependants* who qualify for Council's contributions according to the participation policy of SU's medical scheme. As far as any other *dependants* are concerned, the rules of the medical scheme will determine the period for which Council's contributions must be paid.

3.3.2 Main members who were appointed between 1 September 1997 and 31 May 2002 but who have fewer than 20 years' uninterrupted service will receive Council's contributions only for the corresponding number of years' uninterrupted service that they have upon retirement. Council's contributions regarding such members and their *dependants* who qualify for Council's contributions according to SU's medical scheme remain unchanged after the main member has retired. That is to say, the contributions will not be adjusted according to premium increases, medical costs inflation or any other criterion.

3.3.3 Main members who were appointed at SU as from 1 June 2002 or later do not qualify for any Council's contributions to the medical scheme.

3.3.4 Main members who leave SU's employ on pension before they have reached the age of 60 will receive a decreased Council's contribution to their medical premiums: 0,25% less for every month by which they terminated their employment before turning 60.

3.3.5 The monthly Council's contribution to be paid to pensioners regarding the medical scheme is determined by the specific benchmark option that the SU Council has chosen as basis for calculating the University's maximum contribution; subject, however, to the specific option under which the main member – as well as his or her *dependants* – participates in the medical scheme at the time of retirement.

3.3.6 If a pensioner member's number of registered *dependants* decreases, the Council's contribution to the medical scheme will decrease correspondingly.

3.3.7 The Council's contribution to the medical premium after retirement is linked to the main member and their registered *dependants*. If a change in the main member's marital status after retirement increases the number of *dependants*, the additional *dependants* may be registered as members of the medical scheme. They will not, however, qualify for any Council's contribution to the

main member's medical premium.

3.3.8 *Children's* continued membership are determined by the rules of the medical scheme.

(Definitions of 'child' and 'dependant' are provided at the end of this document, at 7.1 and 7.3 respectively.)

## 4. Funeral cover

Employees may continue their membership regarding funeral cover beyond retirement.

The benefit concerned comprises the following:

- 4.1 main member and *spouse* – R20 000;
- 4.2 *children* of 14 years and older – R15 000; and
- 4.3 *children* under 14 years – R10 000.

Council contributes to this premium on the same basis as in the case of the medical aid scheme.

## 5. Gap cover insurance plan

Membership of the gap cover insurance plan may be continued beyond retirement. Some medical scheme options do not offer comprehensive cover for hospitalisation, which may result in members experiencing financial shortfalls. The purpose of this insurance plan is to finance such potential shortfalls.

Council contributes to this premium on the same basis as in the case of the medical aid scheme.

## 6. Exemption from tuition fees

Retired staff members may be exempted from tuition fees, subject to certain conditions.

Refer to: Rules regarding Exemption from Tuition Fees for Studies at Stellenbosch University, at

<http://www0.sun.ac.za/hr/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Regulation-regarding-exemption-from-combined-tuition-fees-at-Stellenbosch-University.pdf>

## 7. Definitions

In this policy, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following terms will have the meanings defined below:

7.1 'Child' –

a member's *child*, stepchild or legally adopted child (including the *child* of a member's common-law *spouse*) who is younger than 21 years, is not self-supporting and belongs to no other medical scheme – either under their own membership or as the *dependant*

of another member;

7.2 'Cost of Employment' ('COE') –

the total *cost of employment (COE)* to the employer, including all cash remuneration and all contributions to benefit funds; leave and compulsory statutory contributions by the employer are not calculated into *COE*;

7.3 'Dependant' (for the purposes of the medical scheme) –

7.3.1 a member's *spouse* who is not a member of any other medical scheme;

7.3.2 a member's unmarried *child* who does not belong to another medical scheme (either as a member or as a *dependant*), is not self-supporting and is younger than 21 years;

7.3.3 a member's unmarried *child* who is not self-supporting, younger than 21 years and a full-time student at an educational institution approved by the medical scheme, and whom the scheme has recognised upon request as a *dependant*; and

7.3.4 a member's unmarried *child* who is not self-supporting, who is older than 21 years and whom the medical scheme has recognised upon request as an adult *dependant* by reason of a mental or physical disability or similar grounds, subject to the conditions that the medical scheme may set;

7.4 'Pension-bearing amount' –

usually the equivalent of 75% of total annual *COE*;

7.5 'Spouse' –

7.5.1 a person who is recognised as legally married; and

7.5.2 a person who has been living with someone else for more than six months, who plans to continue cohabiting like that permanently and who may be accepted reasonably (judging on the facts of the particular case) as a partner in a permanent relationship of cohabitation;

## 8. Supporting documents

Item number	Name of document	Status <i>(e.g. identified, in process or approved)</i>
	None	

## 9. Related documents

Item number	Name of document	Status <i>(e.g. identified, in process or approved)</i>
DV0406	Benefits	Approved