



UNJSPF

United Nations Joint
Staff Pension Fund

RESTORATION

Introduction

The United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund - also known by its acronym UNJSPF in English and CCPPNU in French - was established in 1949 by the United Nations General Assembly to provide retirement, death, disability and related benefits for staff upon cessation of their service(s) with the United Nations and other organizations admitted to membership of the Fund.

The UNJSPF Regulations and Rules govern the conditions of participation and the determination of the entitlements arising therefrom. The rules are numerous and complex; the purpose of this booklet is to guide you, help your understanding of the rules and assist you with information on issues affecting your pension rights. Participants, retirees and beneficiaries facing circumstances not covered by this booklet are encouraged to consult the Fund Secretariat or the Secretary of the Staff Pension Committee (SPC) of the organization for which the participant works.

Disclaimer: This information is made available for the convenience of UNJSPF participants, retirees, and beneficiaries. If there is any ambiguity, inconsistency or conflict between the information provided in this booklet and the UNJSPF Regulations and Rules, the Regulations and Rules take precedence.

Please check the UNJSPF website for the most up to date Regulations and Rules.

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FAQ

What is restoration?

Restoration is a mechanism whereby you can add contributory service from a previous participation to your current participation. It is available only if, at the end of your previous participation, you took a withdrawal settlement or elected a deferred benefit that was not yet in payment when you re-entered the Fund.

There are two different kinds of restoration:

1. If you elected a withdrawal settlement under Article 31 when you separated from service, you can buy back the prior contributory service for which you had received the withdrawal settlement by reimbursing to the Fund the full amount you had received as your withdrawal settlement plus interest. With this option, all of your prior contributory service will be combined with your current contributory service and credited to your current participation, increasing your future benefit. This type of restoration is covered in Article 24 of the Fund's Regulations.
2. If you elected or were deemed to have elected a deferred retirement benefit when you separated from service, and that benefit is not yet in payment, then the restoration options open to you depend on the date of your election:
 - a. If you elected or were deemed to have elected the deferred retirement benefit before 1 April 2007, then you can fully restore the prior contributory service linked to

this deferred benefit. This means your deferred benefit would be cancelled, and you would receive the full amount of your prior contributory service credited to your current participation on a one for one basis. This type of restoration is covered in Article 24 of the Fund's Regulations.

- b. If you elected or were deemed to have elected the deferred retirement benefit on or after 1 April 2007, then restoration is required to be cost-neutral for the Fund. In this scenario, restoring a deferred retirement benefit is usually not advantageous to you. This type of restoration is covered in Article 24 bis of the Fund's Regulations.

What is the deadline to restore?

Regardless of the type of restoration you are eligible for, you must apply for restoration within 12 months from your date of re-entry into participation with the Fund, and in any case prior to your new date of separation from service, if earlier. Additionally, in cases where restoration requires you to make a payment to the Fund (i.e., if you previously received a withdrawal settlement), you must commence payment of the amount due within 90 days, and must complete payment over a period no longer than half the length of the prior contributory service to be restored, provided that the total amount due shall be payable prior to your new date of separation. Payment is arranged through your employing organization.

What are the advantages of restoring?

Upon separation from service, one of the factors used to calculate your monthly pension is the number of years and months that you contributed to the Fund, known as your "contributory service". By restoring, you can increase the length of your contributory service and, consequently, your pension. Restoration can also help towards reaching optimum conditions, such as:

- reaching the minimum five-year vesting period to be entitled to a periodic benefit upon separation; and
- reaching the thresholds of 25 years and/or 30 years of contributory service, to take advantage of the more preferential conditions if you were to consider taking an early retirement benefit.

Is restoration costly?

- a. If you previously elected a withdrawal settlement, you must pay back to the Fund, through your employing organization, the amount of the withdrawal settlement that was paid to you when you separated plus compound interest of 3.25% per annum from the date the withdrawal settlement was paid until the date of your election to restore.
- b. If you elected or were deemed to have elected a deferred retirement benefit prior to 1 April 2007, you are not required to make any payment. In such cases, electing to restore means that you will cease to be entitled to the deferred retirement benefit previously set up; instead, such prior service will be added to your current participation.
- c. If you elected or were deemed to have elected a deferred retirement benefit on or after 1 April 2007, you are not required to make any payment. In such cases, electing to

restore means that you will cease to be entitled to the deferred retirement benefit previously set up. The amount of the contributory service to be credited to your current participation shall be determined to be equivalent to the actuarial value of the deferred retirement benefit not yet in payment. This means restoration is unlikely to result in the restoration of the full period of contributory service initially earned for the prior period of participation, because the restoration must be carried out at no actuarial cost to the Fund.

Are there other conditions?

Yes. If you had several periods of prior contributory service, only the most recent one can be restored. You must restore the entire period of service open to restoration.

What should be done to restore?

1. Restoration of contributory service linked to a Withdrawal Settlement: To apply for this kind of restoration, use the 'Restoration' tab in your UNJSPF Member Self-Service (MSS) account, or submit a Pens.C/1 form, which can be downloaded from your MSS account or from the Fund's website. Once the Fund confirms you are eligible to restore, they will let you know how much restoration will cost you, and you can decide whether to proceed.
2. Restoration of a deferred retirement benefit before 1 April 2007: To apply for this kind of restoration, use the 'Restoration' tab in your MSS account, or submit form Pens.C/1.

3. Restoration of a deferred retirement benefit on or after 1 April 2007: To get an estimate of the impact of this kind of restoration, submit the Pens.C/8 form, which can be downloaded from your MSS account or from the Fund's website. Once the Fund confirms you are eligible to restore, they will provide you with an estimate of the contributory service period that restoration of your deferred retirement benefit would buy you, and you can decide whether to proceed.

The following questions are only applicable to restoration of a withdrawal settlement.

What are the methods of payment available?

If you are required to make a payment to the Fund in connection with your election to restore because you received a withdrawal settlement, you may choose one of the following two methods of payment:

- a. in full in a lump sum; or
- b. in equal monthly installments (with compound interest) via payroll deductions over a period no longer than half that of the prior period of contributory service being restored, and to be completed, in any event, before separation.

Is there a deadline to pay for the restoration?

Yes. If you decide to pay in a one-time lump sum, you will have a period of 90 days to pay this amount to your employing organization (not to the Fund), from the date of the above notification.

If you want to pay by monthly installments, monthly payments must commence within 90 days of the date of the above notification. These payments will be made via a payroll deduction.

If payment of the lump sum or the first monthly installment is not made within this 90-day period, your right to restore will be deemed to be cancelled irrevocably, without further notification.

What happens in case of separation prior to completion of monthly payments?

You will have to pay the balance upon separation. In this regard, you must contact the Fund immediately to find out the outstanding amount still due. If you fail to complete the restoration payments, the Fund will reimburse to you the installments you already paid and the restoration will be irrevocably cancelled.

What happens if you change employing organizations (within the UN common system) prior to completion of the monthly installments?

If you change employing organizations before the restoration payments are completed, it is your responsibility to ensure that your new employer is informed of the existing arrangements and the need to continue with the payroll deductions so that there is no disruption in the reimbursement process.

What happens if you are unable to pay all the monthly installments prior to completion?

In order to restore, you must pay the full amount required to restore the entire period of service open to restoration within the given time period. You cannot pay only for part of it. Therefore, in the event that you are unable to pay the full amount, the Fund will

reimburse to you the installments you have already paid and your right to restore will be irrevocably cancelled.

What happens should you die before electing to restore, or before you have completed the necessary payments?

A survivor who becomes entitled to a benefit may make the election or the payments on your behalf within the time limits applicable.



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