



Important Announcement (Staff Transfers)

Broad comparability against the National Health Service Pension Scheme (England & Wales)

This announcement follows on from the previous Important Announcements issued by the Government Actuary's Department (GAD) on [1 July 2014](#) and [19 August 2014](#).

On 12 February 2015, [The National Health Service Pension Scheme Regulations 2015](#) (SI 2015/94) and [The National Health Service Pension Scheme \(Transitional and Consequential Provisions\) Regulations 2015](#) (SI 2015/95) were laid before parliament. These regulations constitute the 2015 reforms to the National Health Service Pension Scheme in England and Wales (NHSPS (E&W)), which come into force on 1 April 2015. Similar regulations are expected to be laid imminently, to also come into force on 1 April 2015, for the National Health Service Superannuation Scheme in Scotland (NHSSS) and the Health and Social Care Pension Scheme in Northern Ireland (HSCPS).

Accordingly, with effect from 12 February 2015, existing broad comparability certificates issued by GAD against the NHSPS (E&W) ceased to be valid for transfers of employment involving this scheme which took place on or after that date. This includes situations where contractual terms have been agreed but the transfer of staff has not yet taken place. Certificates for such transfers will need to take account of the new NHSPS (E&W) regulations.

Existing broad comparability certificates issued by GAD which include coverage against the NHSSS and the HSCPS, as well as the NHSPS (E&W), will remain valid only for transfers involving the NHSSS or the HSCPS until the corresponding respective regulations for those schemes are laid. Note that GAD will not issue a further announcement in this regard to confirm when these regulations have been laid.

GAD will now accept applications for broad comparability assessments against NHSPS which take into account the 2015 reforms. In all cases, applications should be accompanied by full details of the pension proposals which are to be tested. Once GAD's systems have been appropriately updated, GAD will be able to provide broad comparability certificates (including passport certificates) which take into account the 2015 reforms. GAD will consider requests for back-dated passport certificates in cases where these replace a passport certificate that has ceased to be valid.

Further questions may be raised with your normal GAD contact or you can contact the Staff Transfers team at staff.transfers@gad.gov.uk, telephone 020 7211 2676 or 020 7211 2752.

Staff Transfers
Government Actuary's Department

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