



Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992

1992 CHAPTER 4

PART I

CONTRIBUTIONS

General

19 General power to regulate liability for contributions.

- (1) Regulations may provide either generally or in relation to—
 - (a) any prescribed category of earners; or
 - (b) earners in any prescribed category of employments,that their liability in a particular tax year in respect of contributions of prescribed classes^[F1], or any prescribed part of such contributions,] is not to exceed such maximum amount or amounts as may be prescribed.
- (2) Regulations made for the purposes of subsection (1) above may provide—
 - (a) for an earner whose liability is subject to a maximum prescribed under that subsection to be liable in the first instance for the full amount of any contributions due from him apart from the regulations, or to be relieved from liability for such contributions in prescribed circumstances and to the prescribed extent; and
 - (b) for contributions paid in excess of any such maximum to be repaid at such times, and in accordance with such conditions, as may be prescribed.
- (3) Regulations may provide, in relation to earners otherwise liable for contributions of any class ^[F2]or any part of such contributions], for excepting them from the liability for such periods, and in such circumstances, as may be prescribed.
- (4) As respects any woman who was married or a widow on 6th April 1977 (the date of the coming into force of the repeal of the old provisions that primary Class 1 contributions

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might be paid at a reduced rate and Class 2 contributions need not be paid by a married woman or a widow) regulations shall provide—

- (a) for enabling her to elect that [^{F3}so much of her liability in respect of primary Class 1 contributions as is attributable to section 8(1)(a) above] shall be a liability to contribute at such reduced rate as may be prescribed; and
 - (b) either for enabling her to elect that her liability in respect of Class 2 contributions shall be a liability to contribute at such reduced rate as may be prescribed or for enabling her to elect that she shall be under no liability to pay such contributions; and
 - (c) for enabling her to revoke any such election.
- (5) Regulations under subsection (4) above may—
- (a) provide for the making or revocation of any election under the regulations to be subject to prescribed exceptions and conditions;
 - (b) preclude a person who has made such an election from paying Class 3 contributions while the election has effect;
 - (c) provide for treating an election made or revoked for the purpose of any provision of the regulations as made or revoked also for the purpose of any other provision of the regulations;
 - (d) provide for treating an election made in accordance with regulations under section 130(2) of the 1975 Act as made for the purpose of regulations under subsection (4) above.

[^{F4}(5A) Regulations under any of subsections (1) to (5) above shall be made by the Treasury.]

- (6) [^{F5}The Secretary of State may by regulations] provide for earnings factors to be derived, for such purposes as may be prescribed, as follows, that is to say—
- (a) in the case of earnings factors for 1987-88 or any subsequent tax year—
 - (i) from earnings upon which primary Class 1 contributions are paid at a reduced rate by virtue of regulations under subsection (4) above; or
 - (ii) from Class 2 contributions paid at a reduced rate by virtue of such regulations; and
 - (b) in the case of earnings factors for any earlier tax year, from contributions which are paid at a reduced rate by virtue of regulations under subsection (4) above;

and if provision is made for a person to have earnings factors so derived for the purpose of establishing entitlement to any benefit, the regulations may, in relation to that person, vary or add to the requirements for entitlement to that benefit.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 19(1) inserted (with effect in relation to the tax year 2003-04 and subsequent tax years) by [National Insurance Contributions Act 2002 \(c. 19\), s. 8\(2\), Sch. 1 para. 5\(2\)](#)
- F2** Words in s. 19(3) inserted (with effect in relation to the tax year 2003-04 and subsequent tax years) by [National Insurance Contributions Act 2002 \(c. 19\), s. 8\(2\), Sch. 1 para. 5\(3\)](#)
- F3** Words in s. 19(4)(a) substituted (with effect in relation to the tax year 2003-04 and subsequent tax years) by [National Insurance Contributions Act 2002 \(c. 19\), s. 8\(2\), Sch. 1 para. 5\(4\)](#)
- F4** S. 19(5A) inserted (1.4.1999) by [Social Security Contributions \(Transfer of Functions, etc.\) Act 1999 \(c. 2\), s. 28\(3\), Sch. 3 para. 19\(2\)](#); S.I. 1999/527, art. 2(b), Sch. 2 (with arts. 3-6)
- F5** Words in s. 19(6) substituted (1.4.1999) by [Social Security Contributions \(Transfer of Functions, etc.\) Act 1999 \(c. 2\), s. 28\(3\), Sch. 3 para. 19\(3\)](#); S.I. 1999/527, art. 2(b), Sch. 2 (with arts. 3-6)

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[^{F6}19A Class 1, 1A or 1B contributions paid in error

- (1) This section applies where—
- (a) payments by way of Class 1, Class 1A or Class 1B contributions are made in respect of earnings paid to or for the benefit of an earner (or in respect of a benefit made available to an earner) in 1998-99 or a subsequent tax year (“year 1”);
 - (b) the payments are made in error, in that the employment from which the earnings are derived (or by reason of which the benefit is made available) is not employed earner’s employment; and
 - (c) the person making the payments has not been notified of the error by the [^{F7}Inland Revenue] before the end of the tax year following year 1 (“year 2”).
- (2) After the end of year 2 the earner shall, except in such circumstances as may be prescribed, be treated for all purposes relating to—
- (a) contributions and contributory benefits; and
 - (b) statutory sick pay and statutory maternity pay,
- as if the earnings were derived from (or the benefit were made available by reason of) employed earner’s employment.

[Regulations under subsection (2) above shall be made by the Treasury.]
^{F8}(3)

Textual Amendments

- F6** S. 19A inserted (4.3.1999 for specified purposes, 6.4.1999 in so far as not already in force) by [Social Security Act 1998 \(c. 14\)](#), **ss. 54**, 87(2); S.I. 1999/526, art. 2(1)(2)(a)
- F7** Words in s. 19A(1)(c) substituted (4.3.1999 for specified purposes, 1.4.1999 in so far as not already in force) by [Social Security Contributions \(Transfer of Functions, etc.\) Act 1999 \(c. 2\)](#), s. 28(3), **Sch. 9 para. 4**; S.I. 1999/527, art. 2(a)(b), Schs. 1, 2 (with arts. 3-6)
- F8** S. 19A(3) inserted (1.4.1999) by [Social Security Contributions \(Transfer of Functions, etc.\) Act 1999 \(c. 2\)](#), s. 28(3), **Sch. 3 para. 20**; S.I. 1999/527, art. 2(b), Sch. 2 (with arts. 3-6)

[^{F9}19B Extended meaning of “benefit” etc in Part 1

In this Part references to “benefit” or “contributory benefit” include benefit under Part 1 of the Pensions Act 2014.]

Textual Amendments

- F9** S. 19B inserted (6.4.2016) by [Pensions Act 2014 \(c. 19\)](#), s. 56(4), **Sch. 12 para. 5**

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

- Act applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2010/875 reg. 16Sch. 2](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S.I. 2010/875 revoked (27.8.2010) before coming into force by S.I. 2010/1906, regs. 1(2), 2)
- Act restricted by [S.I. 1995/471 art. 32\(4\)](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- Pt. 8ZA inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 16\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Ss. 16-21 repealed (1.4.2013) by 2012 c. 5, s. 73; S.I. 2012/3090, art. 2(1)(b))
- Pt. 12ZE inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 5](#)
- s. 4(1)(a)(viii) and word inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 11\(b\)](#)
- s. 4C(5)(i)(j) repealed by [2007 c. 22 Sch. 4 para. 42\(3\)\(c\)Sch. 7 Pt. 7](#)
- s. 11A(1)(eb) inserted by [2021 c. 26 Sch. 27 para. 12](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The existing section 11A of Act repealed by paragraph 4(1) of the Schedule to the National Insurance Contributions (Reduction in Rates) Act 2023 (c. 57))
- s. 30B(4)(aa) inserted by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 9 para. 4](#)
- s. 35(1)(e) and word inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 35(3)(za) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 45(2A)(a) words substituted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 2\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 45(2A)(b) substituted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 2\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 46(5)(6) inserted by [2008 c. 30 Sch. 4 para. 6\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 4 para. 6(3) repealed (1.10.2014) without ever being in force by 2014 c. 19, Sch. 12 para. 96(c); S.I. 2014/2377, art. 2(1)(a)(ii)(3)(c))
- s. 46(5)(a) words substituted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 3](#)
- s. 47(4A) inserted by [2008 c. 30 s. 102\(6\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 102 repealed (1.10.2014) without ever being in force by 2014 c. 19, Sch. 12 para. 96(a); S.I. 2014/2377, art. 2(1)(a)(ii)(3)(c))
- s. 124(1)(ea) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 59\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 124(1)(ga) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 5\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 124(1C) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 59\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 124(6A)(6B) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 5\(1\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 124A inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 59\(3\)](#)
- s. 130C(2)(za) inserted by [2016 asp 19 Sch. 4 para. 5](#)
- s. 138(2A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 17](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Ss. 16-21 repealed (1.4.2013) by 2012 c. 5, s. 73; S.I. 2012/3090, art. 2(1)(b))
- s. 138(2B) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 19\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Ss. 16-21 repealed (1.4.2013) by 2012 c. 5, s. 73; S.I. 2012/3090, art. 2(1)(b))
- s. 140(4)(ca) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 19\(6\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Ss. 16-21 repealed (1.4.2013) by 2012 c. 5, s. 73; S.I. 2012/3090, art. 2(1)(b))
- s. 140(4A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 19\(7\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Ss. 16-21 repealed (1.4.2013) by 2012 c. 5, s. 73; S.I. 2012/3090, art. 2(1)(b))
- s. 164(2)(aa) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 164(9)(da) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(3\)\(b\)](#)

- s. 171ZA(2)(ba) inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(4)(a)
- s. 171ZA(3A) inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(4)(b)
- s. 171ZB(2)(ba) inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(5)(a)
- s. 171ZB(3A) inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(5)(b)
- s. 171ZE(2A) inserted by 2014 c. 6 s. 123(3)(b)
- s. 171ZE(2B) inserted by 2014 c. 6 s. 123(3)(c)
- s. 171ZL(2)(ba) inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(8)(a)
- s. 171ZL(8)(za) inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(8)(c)
- s. 171ZEA(2)(ba) inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(6)(a)
- s. 171ZEA(3)(za) inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(6)(b)
- s. 171ZEB(2)(ba) inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(7)(a)
- s. 171ZEB(3)(za) inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(7)(b)
- s. 173A inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(9)
- s. 176(3A) inserted by 2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 5(2)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 1 para. 2A applied by S.I. 1995/310 reg. 18(1)(a)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 1 para. 6 power to amend conferred by 1992 c. 5 s. 154(2)(a)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 1 para. 2 repealed by 2007 c. 5 Sch. 8
- Sch. 4 Pt. 1 para. 2A repealed by 2007 c. 5 Sch. 8
- Sch. 4 Pt. 5 para. 7 power to amend conferred by 1992 c. 5 s. 154(2)(d)(e)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 5 para. 12 power to amend conferred by 1992 c. 5 s. 154(2)(d)(e)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 3 para. 1 power to amend conferred by 1992 c. 5 s. 150(3)(a)151
- Sch. 4 Pt. 3 para. 2 power to amend conferred by 1992 c. 5 s. 150(3)(a)151
- Sch. 4 Pt. 3 para. 4 power to amend conferred by 1992 c. 5 s. 150(3)(a)151
- Sch. 4 Pt. 3 para. 5 power to amend conferred by 1992 c. 5 s. 150(3)(a)151
- Sch. 4 Pt. 3 para. 6 power to amend conferred by 1992 c. 5 s. 150(3)(a)151
- Sch. 4 Pt. 4 para. 2 applied by S.I. 1995/310 reg. 15(7)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 4 para. 1A repealed by 2007 c. 5 Sch. 8
- Sch. 4 Pt. 4 para. 2 repealed by 2007 c. 5 Sch. 8
- Sch. 4B para. 1(1)(a)para. 1(1)(b)(2) words inserted by 2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 6(2)(b)
- Sch. 4C inserted by 2008 c. 30 s. 102(5)Sch. 3 (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 102, Sch. 3 repealed (1.10.2014) without ever being in force by 2014 c. 19, Sch. 12 para. 96(a)(b); S.I. 2014/2377, art. 2(1)(a)(ii)(3)(c))
- Sch. 4C para. 7(2)(c) inserted by 2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7(7)(b)
- Sch. 4C para. 7(3) inserted by 2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7(8)
- Sch. 4C para. 3 omitted by 2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7(3)
- Sch. 4C para. 7(2)(b) words inserted by 2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7(7)(a)
- Sch. 4C para. 1 words substituted by 2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7(2)
- Sch. 4C para. 2 words substituted by 2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7(2)
- Sch. 4C para. 5(b) words substituted by 2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7(4)
- Sch. 4C para. 6 words substituted by 2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7(5)
- Sch. 4C para. 7(1) words substituted by 2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7(4)
- Sch. 4C para. 7(1) words substituted by 2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7(6)
- Sch. 11 para. 2(i) inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(10)(a)
- Sch. 11 para. 9 inserted by 2012 c. 5 s. 63(10)(b)