

Order of beneficiaries for lump sum on death

The amendment to the order of beneficiaries must have been registered with the Pension Fund in writing during the lifetime of the insured person and before retirement. The persons listed therein are entitled to the payment of a lump sum on death regardless of inheritance law.

Survivor's benefits



When is a lump sum on death paid out?

If an active insured person or a recipient of a retirement or disability pension dies before reaching the age of 65, a lump sum is paid out to the beneficiaries.

How high is the lump sum on death?

If an active insured person dies before reaching the age of 65, a lump sum on death payment amounting to 200 % of the annual disability pension is paid out in addition to any pensions for survivors. For an active insured person, the lump sum on death is increased by the savings transferred on 1 April 2004 from the incentive/bonus insurance and the shift insurance as of 31 March 2004, including interest, by the capital savings transferred to retirement savings as per 1 January 2018 and also by any voluntary extra contributions paid into the retirement plan since 1 April 2004, as defined in Article 9, para. 5, together with interest. The increase is reduced by any Pension Fund benefits already paid out.

Who are the beneficiaries for a lump sum on death?

The following persons are entitled to benefit regardless of inheritance law:

- a) the spouse and children of the deceased who are entitled to an orphan's pension (registered partners are treated as spouses)
- b) in the absence of the beneficiaries defined under a) those persons who are supported to a substantial degree by the deceased or who lived in an uninterrupted domestic partnership with the deceased for the

- last five years up to his/her death or who has to provide for the maintenance of one or more children from this relationship, provided they are not receiving a spouse's pension (Article 20a para. 2 BVG)
- c) in the absence of the beneficiaries defined under a) and b) the other children, in their absence the parents or in their absence the siblings of the deceased,
 - d) in the absence of the beneficiaries defined under a), b) and c) the other legal heirs, to the exclusion of the community, to the amount of half the lump sum on death.

Persons defined under b) are only entitled to this benefit if they have been registered in writing with the Pension Fund during the lifetime of the insured person. The notification must be in the possession of the Pension Fund during the lifetime of the insured person.

Can this order of beneficiaries be changed?

The insured person may change the stipulated order of beneficiaries to the following extent at any time and before retirement in a written notification to the Pension Fund:

- If there are any beneficiaries as defined under b), they can be grouped together with those defined under a), and the entitlements of beneficiaries within this group can be freely selected.
- If there are no beneficiaries as defined under b), those under a) and c) can be grouped together irrespective of the order mentioned in c), and the entitlements of beneficiaries within this group can be freely selected.

The notification must be in the possession of the Pension Fund during the lifetime of the insured person.

If the insured person has not submitted any notification, the lump sum on death is distributed equally between all the beneficiaries within a beneficiary group.



What happens if there are no beneficiaries?

If the lump sum is not assigned to anyone, it falls to the Pension Fund.

Order of beneficiaries' examples

Example 1: domestic partner and children aged less than 20

Susan, a divorced insured person, has 2 children aged less than 20 from a previous marriage. She has lived with her partner Max for 6 years. Susan deposited an "Agreement on domestic partner's pension" and an "Order of beneficiaries" form with the Pension Fund. She grouped beneficiaries under a) and b) together and stipulated the % entitlements as follows:

| Name | Beneficiary | Age | Beneficiary Group | Entitlement |
|------|--------------|-----|-------------------|-------------|
| Mary | Child | 15 | a | 25 % |
| Tom | Child | 18 | a | 25 % |
| Max | Dom. partner | 50 | b | 50 % |

Susan defined that her children (Mary and Tom) are each entitled to 25 % of the lump sum on death payment and Max to 50 %.

Example 2: domestic partner and children aged less than 20 and an adult child (older than 25)

Susan also has an older child (Paula aged 26) and her 2 younger children aged less than 20. She has deposited an "Agreement on domestic partner's pension" and an "Order of beneficiaries" form with the Pension Fund. She grouped beneficiaries under a), b) and c) together and stipulated the % entitlements as follows:

| Name | Beneficiary | Age | Beneficiary Group | Entitlement |
|-------|--------------|-----|-------------------|-------------|
| Mary | Child | 15 | a | 25 % |
| Tom | Child | 18 | a | 25 % |
| Max | Dom. partner | 50 | b | 25 % |
| Paula | Adult child | 26 | c | 25 % |

Paula is older than 25 and falls into group c). The above order of beneficiaries **cannot be accepted** by the Pension Fund because it is not possible to combine beneficiaries in group b) and c) together.

Example 3: no domestic partner but children aged less than 20 and an adult child (older than 25)

Susan and Max have separated and Susan submitted a new "Order of beneficiaries" form. She grouped her children under a) and c) together and stipulated the % entitlements as follows:

| Name | Beneficiary | Age | Beneficiary Group | Entitlement |
|-------|-------------|-----|-------------------|-------------|
| Mary | Child | 15 | a | 33 % |
| Tom | Child | 18 | a | 33 % |
| Paula | Adult child | 26 | c | 33 % |

The above order of beneficiaries is possible because there is no domestic partner in beneficiary group b). If Susan had not specified the order of beneficiaries this way, Paula – the adult child who no longer is entitled to orphan's pension (group c) – would not be eligible for any payment in the event of Susan's death.

NOTE

Not until the time of death can the Pension Fund consider whether the conditions for payment of the lump sum on death are possible within the desired order of beneficiaries. If it is not possible to comply with the desired order of beneficiaries, the Pension Fund pays benefits according to the sequence stipulated in the regulations (in accordance with Article 17 para. 5).

Especially when children are nominated as beneficiaries, a periodic review of the order of beneficiaries is absolutely essential. The entitlement to an orphan's pension ceases once the age of 20 is reached or, if the child is still in education, then once the age of 25 is reached.



Order of beneficiaries

Request for a change in the regulatory order of beneficiaries

Insured person

Surname _____ First name _____

Date of birth _____ Marital status _____

The regulations stipulate the following order of beneficiaries: Extract from Regulations, Article 17, Paragraph 5. The following persons are entitled to benefit regardless of inheritance law:

- a) the spouse and the children of the deceased insured person who are entitled to an orphan's pension from the Pension Fund (registered partners are treated as spouses)
- b) in the absence of the beneficiaries indicated under a), persons substantially supported by the deceased insured person or the person who lived in an uninterrupted domestic partnership with the deceased insured person for the last five years until his death or who has to support one or more children from this relationship, provided they are not receiving a spouse's pension (Article 20a, para. 2 BVG)
- c) in the absence of the beneficiaries indicated under a) and b), the other children, in their absence the parents or in their absence the siblings of the deceased
- d) in the absence of the beneficiaries indicated under a), b) and c), the other legal heirs, to the exclusion of the community, to the amount of half the lump sum on death.

Persons as defined under b) are only entitled to benefit if the Pension Fund has been notified in writing. The notification must have been submitted to the Pension Fund during the lifetime of the insured person.

The insured person may modify the groups of beneficiaries stipulated in paragraph 5 at any time as follows by notifying the Pension Fund in writing:

- If persons defined in para. 5 b) exist, the insured person may group the beneficiaries defined in para. 5 a) and b) together.
- If no persons defined in para. 5 b) exist, the insured person may group the beneficiaries defined in para. 5 a) and c) together irrespective of the order mentioned in para. 5 c).

The insured person may stipulate the entitlements of the beneficiaries within a beneficiary group, as he or she sees fit, by notifying the Pension Fund in writing. If the insured person has not submitted any notification, the lump sum on death is distributed equally between all the beneficiaries within a beneficiary group.

The insured person requests the following changes in the order of beneficiaries (handwritten, surname(s)/first name(s)/date of birth and address of the beneficiary):

Place, date _____ Signature _____

Please complete and sign the form and send the original version to:

Syngenta Pension Fund, Rosentalstrasse 67, CHBS-B8.Z2.3, CH-4058 Basel

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