

I am a member of the Model Pension Scheme - Am I entitled to Added Years?

- (a) New Entrants whose post was advertised before 1 April 2005 and persons deemed not to be a new entrant by Section 2 of the Public Service Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2004 i.e. serving in a public body on 31 March 2004:

We have been instructed by the HEA to advise the following in relation to added years:

“Please note that any decision on the granting of discretionary benefits such as added years will only be made at retirement. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this Statement. However, as this is not a contractual document, it bears no right to benefit. All benefits from the pension scheme are governed by the scheme rules and by legislation in place at the date of the award. It should also be noted that this statement is not suitable for use in Family Law cases”.

Added years are awarded in accordance with circular letter 19 Nov 2004 to certain professional, technical and specialist staff

The following is a guide to the main provisions:

The gross award is calculated on the basis of the formula:

$$19 + Q + E - 25$$

Maximum Award is 10 years and shall not exceed actual service in the case of persons with between 5 and 10 years service & the Award is abated for: ·

- Previous reckonable service in University of Galway (subject to certain provisions).
- Transferred/transferable service: where the member has previous service in another organisation which was / could be transferred to University of Galway (subject to certain provisions).
- Retained benefits: where member has retained benefits from previous employment.
- Career break/unpaid leave/work sharing: Awards will be abated pro-rata. –
- Retirement/resignations before age 60: Awards (abated on a pro-rata basis) may be granted where member retires before age 60 with a preserved pension.

- (b) New Entrants whose post was advertised on or after 1 April 2005:

We have been instructed by the HEA to advise the following in relation to added year

“Please note that any decision on the granting of discretionary benefits such as Added Years will only be made at retirement. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this Statement. However, as this is not a contractual document, it bears no right to benefit. All benefits from the pension scheme are governed by the scheme rules and legislation in place at the date of the award. It should also be noted that this statement is not suitable for use in Family Law cases”.

Added years are awarded in accordance with Circular 8/2005 to certain professional, technical and specialist staff. The following is a guide to the main provisions:

The gross award is calculated on the basis of the formula:

$$19 + Q + E - 25$$

Maximum Award is 5 years and shall not exceed actual service in the case of employees with between 2 and 5 years actual service & the Award is abated for:

- Previous reckonable service in University of Galway (subject to certain provisions).
- Transferred/transferable service: where the member has previous service in another organisation which was / could be transferred to University of Galway (subject to certain provisions).
- Retained benefits: where member has retained benefits from previous employment.
- Career break/unpaid leave/work sharing: Awards will be abated pro-rata.
- Retirement/resignations before age 60: Awards (abated on a pro-rata basis) may be granted where member retires before age 60 or resigns before age 60 with a preserved pension.

Note:

Q = the minimum number of years in which the required qualifications can be obtained

E = the minimum number of years of essential experience required