

2016/17 Guidance notes for GP& Non-GP Providers

The completion of this form will ensure that the estimated monthly deductions are as accurate as possible and any amounts outstanding at the year-end (31 March 2017) are minimal. Large GP Practices may need a continuation sheet.

- Every Practice must complete this form even if the Practice is owned by an organisation that runs many Practices. If a GP is a GP in more than one Practice their total (i.e Global GP) earnings must be taken into account of when setting the 2016/17 tier.
- HSC pensionable pay for GP Providers and non-GP Providers is based on their share of profits. GP Providers pensionable income is further increased if they perform additional fee based GP HSC work, ie OOHs.
- Non-GP Providers are regarded as WT Officer Scheme members and can only 'pension' income from one nominated Practice.
- HSC pensionable pay for Salaried GPs and long term fee based GPs is their Practice income plus pay from other HSC GP type work such as OOHs, PEC, or GP Locum. The Practice must provide HSC Pension Service, BSO, with an accurate statement of the Practice salary.
- This form must not be completed for freelance GP Locums or salaried (non GP) Practice staff.

Scheme Contributions & Rates

1. **Pay that is used to set the contribution tiered rate for GP (and non-GP) Providers who start after the 1st of April or leave before the 31st of March is annualised; e.g. a GP who starts at a surgery on 01/06/2016 and earns £70,000 up to 31/03/2017 is subject to the 13.5% rate. ($£70,000/304 \times 365 = \text{notional pay of } £84,046.05$)**

If a GP starts in year and is a member of the 2015 Scheme, enter the actual pay from this point to year end in Column A. Enter the balance of the annualised figure in Column B.

2. The GP Payments Office, BSO, will deduct (i.e top slice) Scheme employee and employer contributions on account from the main monthly payment made to the Practice. The monthly deductions actually made are only in respect of the mainstream Practice income as stated in Column A because employee and employer contributions will already have been paid in respect if income declared in Column B.

However, the tiered employee contributions rate to be applied must be based on the total pensionable income for 2016/17; ie the total of columns A and B.

1. After the end of the 2016/17 pensions year every GP Provider and non-GP Provider must declare their own HSC pensionable income (to HSC Pension Service, BSO) by completing the relevant annual end of year certificate. The 2016/17 Providers certificate must be submitted to HSC Pensions Service, BSO, by the 28th February 2018. The actual figures from the end of year certificates are then reconciled to the estimated earnings and contributions received by HSC Pension Service. Any arrears of contributions must be paid immediately.
2. After the end of the 2016/17 pensions year every Salaried GP (and long-term fee based GP) must complete a self-assessment form to ensure that have paid tiered contributions at the correct rate. This form is available on the HSC Pension Service website.

The GP (and non-GP Provider) tiered contribution rate table for 2016/17 is as follows:

Tier	Pensionable Earnings Used to determine contribution rate	Contribution rate (before tax relief) (gross) 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2019
1	Up to £15,431.99	5%
2	£15,432.00 to £21,477.99	5.6%
3	£21,478.00 to £26,823.99	7.1%
4	£26,824.00 to £47,845.99	9.3%
5	£47,846.00 to £70,630.99	12.5%
6	£70,631.00 to £111,376.99	13.5%
7	£111,377.00 and over	14.5%

3. Pay that is used to set the contribution tiered rate for GP (and non-GP) Providers who start after the 1st of April or leave before the 31st of March is annualised; e.g. a GP who starts at a surgery on 01/06/2016 and earns £70,000 up to 31/03/2017 is subject to the 13.5% rate. (£70,000/304 x 365 = notional pay of £84,046.05)

GPs must pension all their HSC GP income as outlined in columns A & B – they cannot ‘pick and mix’.

The pay in respect of a part time GP is not converted to a whole time equivalent value for the purposes of setting a tier.

Form SR1 must be completed for all Salaried and Retainee GPs and returned to the address below by the end of March 2016.

Please send completed forms to

**GP Payments Section
HSC Pension Service
Waterside House
75 Duke Street
DERRY
BT47 6FP**

Or email :

GPcertificates@hscni.net