



Circular 20/2006

05 October 2006



**DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH AND  
CHILDREN**  
AN ROINN  
SLÁINTE AGUS LEANAÍ

Quality and Fairness  
A Health System for You

To: CEO's, Superannuation Officers

Schemes: The Local Government Superannuation Scheme  
The Nominated Health Agencies Superannuation Scheme  
The Voluntary Hospitals Superannuation Scheme  
Model Superannuation Schemes of Agencies  
Under the Aegis of the Department of Health and Children

**Part-time public health service employees**  
**Extension of time limits for access and reckoning prior service**

I am directed by the Minister for Health and Children to refer to Circular 23/2005 issued on 22 December 2005.

Within the public health sector the Schemes covered by this circular include;

- The Local Government Superannuation Scheme (LGSS)
- The Nominated Health Agencies Superannuation Scheme (NHASS)
- The Voluntary Hospitals Superannuation Scheme (VHSS)
- Model superannuation schemes of Agencies under the aegis of the Department of Health and Children.

**I refer, in particular, to the time limits set out in paragraphs 27 and 33 of Circular 23/2005.**

**Access**

Paragraph 27 set an option deadline of ...

*The option of access to a scheme offered on foot of paragraph 24 above will be available until 31 October 2006.*

This time limit is hereby extended to **31 October 2007**.

**Reckoning of prior part time service**

Paragraphs 27 and 33 set a deadline for reckoning prior service ....

*For serving employees, the arrangements at paragraph 26(a), 32(a)(iii) or 32(b)(iii), as appropriate, regarding payment of 'back' contributions will be available until 30 June 2008 or the date of retirement, if earlier.*

**Hawkins House Dublin 2**

Teach Haicín Baile Átha Cliath 2

Telephone (01) 635 4000 VP1112

Fax (01) 635 4001

Email: [info@health.gov.ie](mailto:info@health.gov.ie)

Website: <http://www.dohc.ie>

The time limit for payment of all 'back' contributions is hereby extended to **30 June 2009** or the date of retirement, if earlier.

**Please note**

*In the case of former part-time employees who were serving on or after 01 April 1996 / 20 December 2001, as appropriate, and who had retired before the date of issue of this circular (December 2005), the 'back' contributions must be paid at the time of opting into the relevant scheme. **There is no change in this provision.***

All other conditions remain as set out in Circular 23/2005.

**Queries**

Any cases of doubt or difficulty arising in connection with this circular should be referred by employers, in writing, to the Pension Policy Unit, Department of Health and Children, Hawkins House, Hawkins Street, Dublin 2.

Yours sincerely



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Patsy Carr  
Assistant Principal  
Pension Policy Unit