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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**2010 No. 122**

**The Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes  
(Automatic Enrolment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010**

**PART 6**

**Postponement of automatic enrolment**

**Information**

**24.**—(1) At any time before the end of a period of one month beginning with the date on which the automatic enrolment date was postponed under regulation 25, the jobholder’s employer must give the jobholder the information specified in paragraph (2).

(2) The information, which must be given in writing, is—

- (a) the jobholder’s automatic enrolment date;
- (b) a statement giving the reasons for postponement of the automatic enrolment date;
- (c) a statement that during the period prior to the automatic enrolment date the jobholder has no entitlement to become an active member of an automatic enrolment scheme under the Act and therefore no entitlement to contributions payable by the employer, and
- (d) a statement giving details of where to obtain further information about pensions and saving for retirement.

**Postponement of the automatic enrolment date**

**25.**—(1) Where a jobholder is within any of the cases set out in regulation 26, the jobholder’s automatic enrolment date is the date 3 months after the date (“postponement date”) otherwise applicable to that jobholder under section 3(7).

(2) For the purposes of section 4(3) (postponement of automatic enrolment), the prescribed period is the period of 3 months beginning with the automatic enrolment date for the jobholder determined under paragraph (1).

**Cases in which automatic enrolment may be postponed**

**26.**—(1) Each of cases 1 to 4 is a prescribed case for the purposes of regulation 25.

(2) Each case applies where a person whose automatic enrolment date in respect of previous employment with that employer—

- (a) occurred within a period of 12 months before the postponement date, and
- (b) was not postponed under regulation 25(1).

(3) Case 1 is where an automatic enrolment scheme which is a money purchase scheme is in existence on the person’s postponement date and—

- (a) the employer's contribution payable in accordance with section 20(1)(b) (quality requirement: UK money purchase schemes), however calculated, is equal to or more than 6% of the amount of the person's qualifying earnings in any applicable pay reference period, and
  - (b) the total amount of contributions payable by the person and the employer in accordance with section 20(1)(c), however calculated, is equal to or more than 11% of the amount of the person's qualifying earnings in any applicable pay reference period.
- (4) Case 2 is where an automatic enrolment scheme which is a personal pension scheme is in existence on the person's postponement date and—
- (a) the employer's contribution payable in accordance with section 26(4)(b) (quality requirement: UK personal pension schemes), however calculated, is equal to or more than 6% of the amount of the person's qualifying earnings in any applicable pay reference period, and
  - (b) the total amount of contributions payable by the person and the employer in accordance with section 26(5)(b), however calculated, is equal to or more than 11% of the amount of the person's qualifying earnings in any applicable pay reference period.
- (5) Case 3 is where an automatic enrolment service which is a defined benefits scheme is in existence on the person's postponement date and the scheme satisfies the requirements contained in section 21(1) or (2) (quality requirement: UK defined benefits schemes).
- (6) Case 4 is where an automatic enrolment scheme which is a hybrid scheme is in existence on the person's postponement date and the scheme—
- (a) falls within a description of hybrid schemes specified in any rule made under section 24(2) to (4), and
  - (b) satisfies such of the requirements referred to in section 24(1)(a) or (b) as the rule in question specifies as being appropriate to schemes of that description subject to—
    - (i) any prescribed modification of those requirements which is referred to in that rule, and
    - (ii) paragraph (7).
- (7) When applying, in accordance with any such rule as is referred to in paragraph (6), the requirements for a money purchase scheme under section 20—
- (a) the employer's contribution payable in accordance with section 20(1)(b), however calculated, must be equal to or more than 6% of the amount of the jobholder's qualifying earnings in any applicable pay reference period, and
  - (b) the total amount of contributions payable by the jobholder and the employer in accordance with section 20(1)(c), however calculated, must be at least 11% of the amount of the jobholder's qualifying earnings in any applicable pay reference period.
- (8) For the purposes of this regulation "postponement date" has the meaning given in regulation 25(1).
- (9) In relation to Cases 1, 3 and 4, any reference to a particular provision of the Act is a reference to that provision as it applies to—
- (a) an occupational pension scheme within section 18(a) (occupational pension schemes with main administration in the UK); or
  - (b) an occupational pension scheme within section 18(b) (occupational pension schemes with main administration in an EEA State other than the UK).
- (10) In relation to Case 2 any reference to section 26 is a reference to that provision as it applies to—

- (a) a personal pension scheme within section 26(1), or
- (b) a personal pension scheme within regulation 35(1)(a)(ii).