



Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999

1999 CHAPTER 30

PART IV

PENSION SHARING

CHAPTER II

SHARING OF STATE SCHEME RIGHTS

48 Activation of benefit sharing.

- (1) [^{F1}Section 49 or 49A applies where any of the following has taken effect in relation to a person's shareable state scheme rights]—
- (a) a pension sharing order under the ^{M1}Matrimonial Causes Act 1973,
 - [^{F2}(aa) a pension sharing order under Schedule 5 to the Civil Partnership Act 2004,]
 - ^{F3}(b)
 - ^{F4}(c)
 - (d) an order under Part III of the ^{M2}Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act 1984 (financial relief in England and Wales in relation to overseas divorce etc.) corresponding to such an order as is mentioned in paragraph (a),
 - [^{F5}(da) an order under Schedule 7 to the 2004 Act (financial relief in England and Wales after overseas dissolution etc. of a civil partnership) corresponding to such an order as is mentioned in paragraph (aa),]
 - (e) a pension sharing order under the ^{M3}Family Law (Scotland) Act 1985,
 - (f) provision which corresponds to the provision which may be made by such an order and which—
 - (i) is contained in a qualifying agreement between the parties to a marriage [^{F6}or between persons who are civil partners of each other],
 - (ii) is in such form as the Secretary of State may prescribe by regulations,and

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- (iii) takes effect on the grant, in relation to the marriage, of decree of divorce under the ^{M4}Divorce (Scotland) Act 1976 or of declarator of nullity [^{F7}or (as the case may be) on the grant, in relation to the civil partnership, of decree of dissolution or of declarator of nullity],
- (g) an order under Part IV of the ^{M5}Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act 1984 (financial relief in Scotland in relation to overseas divorce etc.) [^{F8}or under Schedule 11 to the 2004 Act (financial provision in Scotland after overseas proceedings)] corresponding to such an order as is mentioned in paragraph (e),
- (h) a pension sharing order under [^{F9}the Matrimonial Causes (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 (S.I. 1978/1045 (N.I. 15)),]
- (i) an order under Part IV of the ^{M6}Matrimonial and Family Proceedings (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 (financial relief in Northern Ireland in relation to overseas divorce etc.) corresponding to such an order as is mentioned in paragraph (h).
- [^{F10}(j) a pension sharing order under Schedule 15 to the 2004 Act, and
- (k) an order under Schedule 17 to the 2004 Act (financial relief in Northern Ireland after overseas dissolution etc. of a civil partnership) corresponding to such an order as is mentioned in paragraph (j).]
- ^{F11}(2)
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (1)(f), a qualifying agreement is one which—
- (a) has been entered into in such circumstances as the Secretary of State may prescribe by regulations, and
- (b) is registered in the Books of Council and Session.
- ^{F12}(4)
- ^{F13}(5)
- (6) For the purposes of this section, an order or provision falling within subsection (1)(e), (f) or (g) shall be deemed never to have taken effect if the Secretary of State does not receive before the end of the period of 2 months beginning with the relevant date—
- (a) copies of the relevant ^{F14}... documents, and
- (b) such information relating to the transferor and transferee as the Secretary of State may prescribe by regulations under section 34(1)(b)(ii).
- (7) The relevant date for the purposes of subsection (6) is—
- (a) in the case of an order or provision falling within subsection (1)(e) or (f), the date of the extract of the decree or declarator responsible for the divorce [^{F15}, dissolution] or annulment to which the order or provision relates, and
- (b) in the case of an order falling within subsection (1)(g), the date of disposal of the application under section 28 of the ^{M7}Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act 1984 [^{F16}or, where the order is under Schedule 11 to the 2004 Act, the date of disposal of the application under paragraph 2 of that Schedule].
- (8) The reference in subsection (6)(a) to the relevant ^{F17}... documents is—
- (a) in the case of an order falling within subsection (1)(e) or (g), to copies of the order and the order, decree or declarator responsible for the divorce [^{F18}, dissolution] or annulment to which it relates, and
- (b) in the case of provision falling within subsection (1)(f), to—
- (i) copies of the provision and the order, decree or declarator responsible for the divorce [^{F19}, dissolution] or annulment to which it relates, and

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- (ii) documentary evidence that the agreement containing the provision is one to which subsection (3)(a) applies.
- (9) [^{F20}The Court of Session or the sheriff] may, on the application of any person having an interest, make an order—
- (a) extending the period of 2 months referred to in subsection (6), and
 - (b) if that period has already expired, providing that, if the Secretary of State receives the documents and information concerned before the end of the period specified in the order, subsection (6) is to be treated as never having applied.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 48(1) substituted (5.2.2015 for specified purposes, 6.4.2016 unless brought into force earlier by an order under s. 56(1) of the amending Act) by **Pensions Act 2014 (c. 19), s. 56(4), Sch. 11 para. 11**; S.I. 2015/134, art. 2(1)(4)(k)
- F2** S. 48(1)(aa) inserted (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(2)**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)
- F3** S. 48(1)(b) repealed (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(3)(b)(ii), 139(4)**
- F4** S. 48(1)(c) repealed (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(3)(b)(ii), 139(4)**
- F5** S. 48(1)(da) inserted (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(3)**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)
- F6** Words in s. 48(1)(f)(i) inserted (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(4)(a)**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)
- F7** Words in s. 48(1)(f)(iii) inserted (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(4)(b)**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)
- F8** Words in s. 48(1)(g) inserted (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(5)**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)
- F9** Words in s. 48(1)(h) substituted (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(6)**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)
- F10** S. 48(1)(j)(k) inserted (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(7)**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)
- F11** S. 48(2) repealed (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(3)(b)(ii), 139(4)**
- F12** S. 48(4) repealed (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(3)(b)(ii), 139(4)**
- F13** S. 48(5) repealed (13.5.2014) by **Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), ss. 18(3)(b)(ii), 139(4)**
- F14** Word in s. 48(6)(a) repealed (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(8), Sch. 30**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)(6)
- F15** Word in s. 48(7)(a) inserted (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(9)(a)**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)
- F16** Words in s. 48(7)(b) inserted (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(9)(b)**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)
- F17** Word in s. 48(8) repealed (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(10)(a), Sch. 30**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)(6)
- F18** Word in s. 48(8)(a) inserted (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(10)(b)**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)
- F19** Word in s. 48(8)(b)(i) inserted (5.12.2005) by **Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33), s. 263(10)(b), Sch. 27 para. 161(10)(b)**; S.I. 2005/3175, art. 2(2)
- F20** Words in s. 48(9) substituted (26.1.2009) by **Pensions Act 2008 (c. 30), ss. 128(3), 149(1)**; S.I. 2009/82, art. 2(1)(b)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999, Section 48. (See end of Document for details)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Pt. IV Ch. II modified (6.4.2016) by [The Social Security \(Northern Ireland Reciprocal Arrangements\) Regulations 2016 \(S.I. 2016/287\)](#), regs. 1, 2(2)(e)(ii), **Sch.**

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 48 wholly in force at 1.12.2000; s. 48 in force for certain purposes at Royal Assent see s. 89(1); s. 48 in force at 1.12.2000 insofar as not already in force by [S.I. 2000/1047](#), art. 2(2)(d), **Sch. Pt. IV**

Marginal Citations

- M1** 1973 c. 18.
M2 1984 c. 42.
M3 1985 c. 37.
M4 1976 c. 39.
M5 1984 c. 42.
M6 [S.I. 1989/677 \(N.I. 4\)](#).
M7 1984 c. 42.

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