

## Changes to the pension fund regulations 2024

The Board of Trustees amended the pension fund regulations with effect from 1 January 2024. The amendments take particular account of AHV Reform 21 and the new Data Protection Act. An attempt was also made to give insured persons even more flexibility. All amendments are listed below; please refer to the pension fund regulations for details:

### **Art. What has changed**

The term "retirement age" has been replaced throughout the regulations by the term "reference age", which is familiar from the AHV reform.

- Art. 9a para. 7 In addition to the FAR Foundation, other organisations can now also enter into agreements with the Avanea Pension Fund in order to implement similar models.
- Art. 9b The previous Appendix II to the pension fund regulations (voluntary continued insurance after the age of 58 pursuant to Art. 47a BVG) has been integrated into Art. 9b. A fixed annual administration fee of CHF 150.00 has been defined.
- Art. 9c A new option for voluntary insurance (external membership) has been created. The amount of administrative fees was set at CHF 150.00 per year.
- Art. 12 para. 2 and 5 As a result of the new Data Protection Act, the duty of disclosure of the insured persons as well as the provisions on data retention were refined.
- Art. 15 Retirement is now possible in a maximum of 5 steps. In the case of partial retirement, the benefit entitlement corresponds to the extent of the salary reduction.
- Art. 18 para. 2 During the deferral period, the insured person may request partial withdrawal of the retirement benefit at any time, provided that he/she continues to be gainfully employed.
- Art. 18 para. 4 The return of any purchases as a lump-sum death benefit during the pension deferral period is now provided for.
- Art. 19 It was defined that a maximum of 3 partial lump-sum withdrawals are possible for phased retirements.  
In addition, a new 90/90 pension model has been created. It is now possible to choose a reduced retirement pension before retirement in order to achieve a constant spouse's retirement pension in the event of death.
- Art. 32 para. 5 Precision: Beneficiary status of the life partner for the lump-sum death benefit  
Art. 33 para. 5 is also possible without a previous joint household.
- Art. 32 para. 6 Purchases made before joining the Avanea Pension Fund will be paid out as a lump-sum death benefit, provided that corresponding receipts were submitted during the insured person's lifetime.
- Art. 33 In the event of death, all active insured persons will be entitled to an additional fixed lump-sum death benefit of CHF 10,000.00. The employer's pension plan may provide for a higher additional lump-sum death benefit.

- Art. 43 para. 5 The repurchase of equalisation payments made as a result of divorce was always possible, but has been explicitly regulated again in the new regulations.
- Art. 48 para. 2 Disabled persons now also have the option of buying into the full regulatory (retirement) benefits.
- Art. 55 Reinsurance was previously addressed in Art. 56 under the heading of Data Protection.
- Art. 56 Precisions on the topics of data collection, confidentiality and data protection are regulated in this article. Further information can be found on the homepage.