

Coronavirus Act: Pensions

Part 1 Section 45 - NHS pension schemes: suspension of restrictions on return to work: England and Wales

If you have retired and are returning to work to help tackle the coronavirus outbreak, you need not be concerned about previous restrictions on “retire and return” as the government has suspended some of the obstacles.

Previously, those under the 1995 NHS Pension Scheme had to wait 24 hours before any return to service and then could work no more than 16 hours per week for the first 4 weeks of their return. These restrictions have been lifted.

For those with “special class status” who have retired at 55 without any actuarial reduction to their pension, they can now return to work on a salary higher than their pre-retirement salary without suffering suspension of their pension.

Those who had partially retired/drawn down from their pension, have previously not been able to receive more than 90% of their former pay without penalty. The Bill removes that restriction and you will not suffer any abatement if your salary exceeds 90% of your former pay.