

Injection procedures and timetable

The injection involves legislative amendments and complicated administrative procedures. The MPFA hopes to announce the injection schedule and arrangements by the end of this year after completion of the legislative amendments and other necessary procedures. The MPFA calls on scheme members to remain patient while awaiting the relevant announcement. In addition, those members who consider themselves eligible for but do not receive the injection will be given ample time to raise their enquiries with the MPFA. Hence, members need not make any enquiries on individual scenarios at this stage.



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Government Injection of Budget Surplus into MPF/ORSO Members' Accounts

In his 2008-09 Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary announced that the Government proposed to inject HK\$6,000 into the accounts of eligible MPF scheme members and employees under MPF exempted ORSO registered schemes (ORSO schemes) with an aim to enhancing their retirement protection.

The Financial Secretary later in his Budget Concluding Speech announced that the coverage of the proposed injection would be extended, so that more scheme members will benefit.

This pamphlet aims to set out the eligibility criteria for scheme members and the necessary actions that they need to take to complement the injection.



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Scheme Members Eligible for the Injection

A. MPF scheme members

1. Regular employees (full-time and part-time) under an MPF scheme:

All full-time and part-time employees who are MPF scheme members are eligible, as long as they had an MPF contribution account as at 29 February 2008 and earned a monthly relevant income of HK\$10,000 or below in any one of the three months of December 2007, January and February 2008.

2. Casual employees under the Industry Schemes (covering the catering and construction industries):

Such members are eligible provided that they had an MPF contribution account as at 29 February 2008 and their average monthly income between 1 March 2007 and 29 February 2008 (i.e. the total relevant income of those 12 months divided by 12) was HK\$10,000 or below.

3. Self-employed persons under an MPF scheme:

Such members are eligible if they remained self-employed and had an MPF contribution account as at 29 February 2008 and the annual relevant income of the scheme financial year(s) covering the period of 1 December 2007 to 29 February 2008 they reported to their trustees was HK\$120,000 or below (in case two scheme financial years are of relevance, only one of the reported annual relevant income amounts needs to be HK\$120,000 or below).

4. Recently unemployed persons:

Such persons are eligible if they had an MPF preserved account as at 29 February 2008; were employed at any time between 1 March 2007 and 29 February 2008; had pay records under an MPF scheme or were ORSO scheme members during the aforesaid period; and the relevant income in any one of the last three months of their final job in the aforesaid period was HK\$10,000 or below.

B. ORSO scheme members:

Such members are eligible as long as they were members of an ORSO scheme (defined contribution and defined benefit) and their monthly salary in any one of the three months of December 2007, January and February 2008 was HK\$10,000 or below.

Each eligible person is entitled to one injection only, regardless of the number of MPF accounts he/she has, or whether he/she is a holder of MPF

contribution and preserved accounts and/or is an ORSO scheme member at the same time. The injection will be made to his/her account with the highest account balance as at 29 February 2008. If a person has more than one employment or self-employment at the same time, his/her total relevant income will be used to assess his/her eligibility for the injection.

Necessary actions by scheme members

To facilitate the implementation of the injection, the MPFA calls on employers and scheme members to take the following actions:

1. MPF scheme members: Regular employees (full-time and part-time), who were employed as at 29 February 2008

- Make sure that your employer had made contributions for you in respect of December 2007, January and February 2008; and
- Consult your employer directly, or contact your trustee or the MPFA if in doubt.

2. MPF scheme members: Casual employees under the Industry Schemes (covering the catering and construction industries)

- Make sure that the employer(s) who had employed you during the period from 1 March 2007 to 29 February 2008 had made contributions for you; and
- Consult your employer(s) directly, or contact your trustee(s) or the MPFA if in doubt.

3. MPF scheme members: Self-employed persons

- Make sure you have informed your trustee your relevant income in the current financial year. If you have not done so, make sure you get it done on or before 31 July 2008; and
- Contact your trustee if you have questions regarding the calculation and reporting of the relevant income for the relevant financial year of the scheme.

4. ORSO schemes: Employers

- Start the preparatory work by gathering information on the income and the identity card/passport numbers in respect of current employees as well as employees who left service between 1 March 2007 and 29 February 2008.