

Dear member

UKZN Medical Scheme – contribution relief

The Board of Trustees of the University of Kwazulu-Natal Medical Scheme took cognisance of the fact that many of its members may be in emotional and financial distress as a result of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is further anticipated that the financial impact may continue, even when lockdown restrictions are lifted.

Given the exceptional circumstances we are faced with during the pandemic, the Board of Trustees of the University of Kwazulu-Natal Medical Scheme explored several options, with the assistance of the Scheme actuary, to find a viable solution that will bring some relief to assist its members.

After careful consideration at a Board of Trustees meeting held on 12 November 2020, the Board resolved to:

1. Change contribution collections from advance to arrears.

This effectively creates a one-month cash flow relief from payment of Medical Scheme Contributions for members during December 2020 when the switch over occurs from advance to arrears billing. The January 2021 subscription that would normally have been deducted from members' December 2020 salary will now only be deducted from the January 2021 salary. The deduction for each month going forward will be for that month, i.e. the February salary deduction will be the February subscription.

2. Delay the 2021 contribution increase of 5.9% by two months.

The Board agreed to delay the implementation of the 2021 contribution increases as communicated in the 2021 Benefit Brochure, to commence with effect only on 01 March 2021 and not from 1 January 2021.

We trust that the timing of the change over from advance to arrears and the delay in the 2021 contribution increase to 01 March 2021 will bring some much-needed cash relief over the festive period for our members.

Such measures to assist the Scheme's members once again highlights the value to members of the University having its very own UKZN Medical Scheme.

Regards



Philippa Hempson
Principal Officer
UKZN Medical Scheme