

Universities Academic Pension Plan (UAPP) Definition of Pensionable Salary & Earnings

Salary or earnings are defined as pensionable if they represent a regular and recurring component of an employee's long-term compensation and are paid in relation to the performance of the regular duties of employment. Short-term or ad-hoc payments that do not occur on an ongoing basis and that do not form a long-term component of an employer's compensation program are not pensionable.

Employees and employers within the UAPP make pension contributions on earnings employees receive on a regular and consistent basis. Excluding inconsistent or short-term payments prevents members from paying extra contributions on earnings that will not impact the defined benefit they receive on retirement and prevents artificial increases to Average Annualized Earnings.

The decision to determine which earnings are deemed pensionable is the responsibility of each employer participating in the Universities Academic Pension Plan (UAPP).

Pensionable Salary Types (list is not exhaustive)

- Gross basic annual salary for the performance of regular duties of employment
- Market Supplements
- Retroactive salary adjustments
- Administrative Stipends

Pension Contributions During Leave

In the following circumstances, pension contributions are based on the salary earned by the employee prior to the commencement of leave or other benefits from long-term disability (LTD) or Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) Benefits.

- Employee is receiving benefits from an approved long-term disability income plan,
- Employee is receiving temporary Workers' Compensation disability payments,
- Employee is on leave without salary, or
- Employee is on leave with partial salary.

Non-Pensionable Salary Types (list is not exhaustive)

- Salary supplements
- Vacation leave payout
- Expense allowance payments (e.g. meal allowances)
- Non-cash benefits

For more information, contact the Staff Service Centre.

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