



## Your pension at Bpf Koopvaardij

The pension scheme



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# Introduction

**This pension guide explains the current Bpf Koopvaardij pension scheme rules.**

Your pension is more than the benefit you receive when you stop working. Your pension scheme also offers other important provisions, such as benefits for your surviving dependants in the event of your death and occupational disability benefits if you unexpectedly become disabled. This guide also contains information on these topics.

When reading this guide, you will often encounter pension terminology and abbreviations. These are explained to you in the glossary at the back of the guide.

This guide summarises your pension scheme rules. You cannot derive any rights from this guide. The pension scheme is described in detail in Bpf Koopvaardij's rules and regulations. You will find these at [www.koopvaardij.nl/downloads](http://www.koopvaardij.nl/downloads) (Dutch only).



# This is your pension fund

**Bpf Koopvaardij is the pension fund for seafarers who live in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the European Union, the European Economic Area or the treaty countries. You will find more information about these countries on page 6 under ‘Who are the members?’. If they work on a ship that sails under the Dutch flag, they are automatically members of the Bpf Koopvaardij pension scheme.**

## Mission

The pension fund wishes to administer the pension scheme in a reliable, socially responsible, transparent and cost-effective manner for (former) members and pensioners, both now and in the future.

## Vision

The pension fund aims for a balanced risk sharing between all current and former members and pensioners. The pension fund invests and manages the assets against responsible risks and does so in a socially responsible manner. The pension fund faces the challenge of striking a balance between being able to pay the promised benefits and aiming to retain as much purchasing power as possible, with transparency, accountability and effective communication having a high priority.

## Management

Bpf Koopvaardij is managed by a board of 9 members. The Bpf Koopvaardij board consists of 4 members representing employers’ organisations, 2 members representing employees’ organisations, 2 members chosen on behalf of pensioners and 1 independent expert.

Board members are appointed by the board as follows:

- 2 members are chosen by the Social Maritime Employers’ Association [Sociaal Maritiem Werkgeversverbond] (representing employers);
- 2 members are chosen by the Merchant Shipping Employers’ Association [Vereniging van Werkgevers in de Handelsvaart] (representing employers);
- 2 members are chosen by Nautilus International (representing employees);
- 2 members are chosen by the pensioners (representing pensioners);
- 1 independent member.

## Pension council

In addition to the board, there is a pension council that

advises and judges the board. The pension council consists of 12 members and 2 substitutes from the following 4 groups:

- members;
- former members;
- pensioners;
- employers.

The same organisations that are represented on the board are represented on the pension council. The Dutch Shipmasters’ Association [Nederlandse Vereniging van Kapiteins ter Koopvaardij] also appoints 2 members to the pension council. The pension council is authorised to issue assessments on the board’s performance, the policy the board enforces and future policy choices. The pension board can also advise the board, whether or not it is requested to do so.

## Administration

Bpf Koopvaardij has engaged PGGM to administer the pension scheme. PGGM also pays pension benefits on behalf of Bpf Koopvaardij. If you have questions about your pension, you can address them to:

Bedrijfspensioenfonds voor de Koopvaardij  
Postbus 97614  
NL-2509 GA Den Haag  
Tel: +31 88 007 98 99  
E-mail: [servicedesk@koopvaardij.nl](mailto:servicedesk@koopvaardij.nl)  
Website: [www.koopvaardij.nl](http://www.koopvaardij.nl)

# Brief description of your pension scheme

**Bpf Koopvaardij's pension scheme is officially called a 'solidarity-based defined contribution scheme'. This means that your pension is the result of the pension contributions you have paid and the collective investment returns achieved on those contributions.**

**You join the pension scheme from the age of 18 at the earliest. Your occupational retirement pension starts on the first day of the month in which you reach the state pension age. You may also opt to retire earlier or later.**

**When you pass away, your surviving dependants will be entitled under certain conditions to a surviving dependants' pension, partner's pension and orphan's pension. You can read more about this in the chapter entitled 'Types of pension'.**

**The level of the occupational retirement pension depends, among other things, on the contributions made and the collective investment results obtained on those contributions.**

**In addition to your occupational retirement pension, you will receive a state pension from the government from your state pension age. In 2026, the state pension benefit starts at 67.**

**If you have worked outside the merchant navy, you have probably built up a pension there too. You can see this at [www.mijnpensioenoverzicht.nl](http://www.mijnpensioenoverzicht.nl)**

## Who are the members?

You are a member if you work as a seafarer on a vessel sailing under the Dutch flag. You join the pension scheme from the day you turn 18. The scheme ends on your standard retirement date. That is the first day of the month in which you reach the state pension age.

A condition is that the seafarer resides:

- in the Kingdom of the Netherlands. That is four countries:
  1. The Netherlands, including the special municipalities of Saba, Sint Eustatius and Bonaire in the Caribbean,
  2. Aruba
  3. Curaçao
  4. Sint Maarten; or
- in a country that is a member of the European Union (EU); or
- in a country belonging to the European Economic Area (EEA)\*\*, with the exception of Switzerland; or
- in a country with which the Netherlands has concluded a social security agreement, with the exception of the United States of America.

## What are seagoing vessels?

Seagoing vessels are understood to be vessels that fly the flag of the Kingdom of the Netherlands on the basis of Dutch legal rules. With the exception of:

- fishing vessels;
- vessels in public service;
- inland waterway vessels;
- warships and naval auxiliary vessels;
- pleasure craft;
- vessels specially designed for dredging and dumping sand and clay, and the associated support vessels.

\* A ship operator is the owner, bareboat charterer or manager of a vessel.

\*\* There are three countries that do not belong to the European Union (EU) but do cooperate extensively with the EU. Together with the EU countries, these three countries make up the European Economic Area (EER). These three countries are: Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland.



As an employee, you do not need to register or deregister yourself with the pension fund. Your employer will register you.

Once each year, you will receive a Uniform Pension Overview ('UPO'). This overview includes information about the amount of your built-up pension. If you stop being a member, you will receive a final letter and a UPO every year thereafter.

### **Solidarity-based defined contribution scheme**

Bpf Koopvaardij's pension scheme is a solidarity-based defined contribution scheme. Your occupational retirement pension is derived from the sum of the contributions made and the investment results achieved on those contributions.

The pension in payment (both the occupational retirement pension and the partner's and orphan's pension) is variable. Each year, Bpf Koopvaardij determines whether the pension in payment can increase, decrease, or stay the same.

### **How much pension are you building up?**

Under the new pension scheme, there are arrangements for the amount of money (the contributions) that you and your employer contribute, but not about the amount of your pension. The contributions that you and your employer make go into your 'pension assets'. This is a pot of money specifically for your retirement. We invest your pension assets so that they can grow. What happens when you retire? Then we pay your monthly pension from your pension assets. What if you pass away on or after your retirement date? Then we will also pay the pension for your partner and/or children from those pension assets. You can read more about these topics in the chapter entitled 'Types of pension'.

### **How long can you build up pension?**

You can build up pension from the age of 18 until your state pension date.

### **Which salary is your pension based on?**

For every year you work in the merchant navy, you contribute a portion of your gross salary for that year towards your pension. If your salary increases, you therefore also put in more contributions for your pension.

### **Pension contribution**

For your pension scheme, you pay contributions. In return,

you build up a pension and a partner's and orphan's pension are arranged for you. There is also cover in case of occupational disability. You furthermore build up pension on sick days and paid or unpaid leave days.

The gross contribution for the pension scheme amounts to 25.90% (2026) of the pensionable earnings. The pensionable earnings are the pensionable salary, less the state pension offset. The state pension offset is the amount below which you do not pay a pension contribution and therefore do not build up pension. You pay no pension contributions on your salary up to €18,258.64 (€50.02 per day). The maximum pensionable salary in 2026 is €117,081.05 on an annual basis (€320.77 per day). Above this amount, you do not build up a pension. The contribution in 2026 is calculated over 365 days.

Of the gross contribution you pay, 20.90% is invested in your pension assets. This is the net contribution. The remaining contribution is for partner's and orphan's pension in the event of your passing, the contribution exemption in the event of occupational disability, and administration costs.

You and your employer each pay half the contribution. Your employer withholds your portion from your salary. Your employer ensures that the total contribution is paid to Bpf Koopvaardij.

### **Investment policy**

Bpf Koopvaardij invests your contributions. The investment return is needed to be able to pay, and possibly increase, future pension benefits. The income received in contributions alone is not sufficient for these purposes. Bpf Koopvaardij strives to achieve the highest possible return on investments while taking the lowest possible risk. Investments must be diversified in order to limit risks. That is why our investment portfolio consists of investments in:

- marketable securities (which involve a possibly higher return and a higher risk), such as equity and real estate; and
- investments in fixed income securities (which involve a lower return and a lower risk), such as bonds and mortgages. However, investments in fixed income securities do not yield enough to pay pensions and possibly increase them in the future. Therefore, part of the portfolio is invested in marketable securities.

# Types of pension

## Pension for the elderly

Your pension for later in life consists of several components.

A basic pension is provided by the government. This is the state pension benefit. As a member of the pension scheme, you also build up pension with Bpf Koopvaardij.

## The state pension

The state pension provides benefits for the elderly. In 2026, the state pension age starts at 67. Calculate your state pension age using your date of birth on [www.svb.nl](http://www.svb.nl).

## Lifelong pension

By default, you will receive your lifelong pension from the first day of the month in which you reach state pension age. Your lifelong pension stops on the last day of the month in which you pass away.

## If you are nearing retirement

You will receive notice from us 6 months before your state pension age to apply for your pension.

If you opt for our standard pension proposal, your pension will start at your state pension age. However, you can also take advantage of the various pension options at Bpf Koopvaardij. You can apply for your pension digitally via My Koopvaardij or with a form by post.

## Retiring earlier or later

You may opt to retire earlier or later. Keep in mind that if you retire earlier, your pension may be lower. You will then receive your pension over a longer period and may build up less pension.

The reverse is also true. If you retire later, your pension may be higher. After all, you will then receive your pension over a shorter period of time. You can defer your pension for up to five years after your state pension date. Keep in mind that you build up a pension and therefore pay pension contributions up to your state pension date at the latest. If you want to retire earlier, we recommend that you look into this option earlier and do not wait for us to notify you. You can contact our Service Desk for this purpose.

## Exchanging occupational retirement pension for temporary pension until your state pension date

You can also opt to exchange part of your occupational retirement pension for temporary extra retirement pension. You will then receive the extra pension from your retirement date until the first day of the month in which you reach state pension age. You will subsequently receive a reduced occupational retirement pension.

## First a higher pension and subsequently a lower pension

You can also choose to divide your pension and tailor it to your personal situation. For example, you may receive a higher pension for a period of time and then a lower pension for life. This way, you align your pension with your expected income and expenses.

## Exchanging occupational retirement pension or partner's pension

You can also increase your lifelong occupational retirement pension by exchanging the partner's pension or part of it for extra occupational retirement pension. This exchange is something you would do automatically if you do not have a partner. You can also opt for this exchange if your partner has built up sufficient occupational retirement pension himself/herself.

When you retire, you can also opt to exchange part of your occupational retirement pension for extra partner's pension. More information on the exchange options can be found on page 10 under 'Exchanging partner's pension for extra occupational retirement pension'.

All pension choices are one-off: you can make them only once.

## Net pre-pension

If you built up pension with us before 1 January 2015, you may also have built up net pre-pension. As of 1 January 2025, Bpf Koopvaardij transferred the net pre-pension to Zwitserleven.

## WGA shortfall scheme

In consultation with employer and employee representatives, the administration of the WGA shortfall scheme was transferred to De Goudse as of 1 January 2026. You can find more information about De Goudse's new WGA shortfall insurance Plus at [www.goudse.nl](http://www.goudse.nl).



### **Insight into your pension with My Koopvaardij**

My Koopvaardij is your personal secure environment containing the details of your pension situation and pension planner at Bpf Koopvaardij (accessible with DigiD or eIDAS).

You can use it to calculate the effect of the various pension options. You can also easily indicate whether you wish to receive your post digitally in future. You simply enter your email address. Go to [deelnemer.koopvaardij.nl/login](https://deelnemer.koopvaardij.nl/login) and log in with your DigiD or eIDAS.

### **Pension for your surviving dependants**

In addition to your occupational retirement pension, Bpf Koopvaardij also provides for your family, if you have one. There is a partner's pension or special partner's pension for your partner (and any ex-partner) after your passing. For your children up to the age of 25, there is an orphan's pension.

### **The amount of the partner's pension for your partner\* depends on your situation at the time of your passing.**

#### **You build up pension and you pass away before your state pension date**

In this situation, your partner will be entitled to the partner's pension on a risk basis. This is a percentage of your pensionable salary (plus any partner's pension built up in the scheme before 1 January 2026).

#### **You are no longer building up pension and you pass away**

In this situation, your partner will be entitled to any partner's pension built up in the scheme before 1 January 2026 (unless you transferred your pension to another pension fund) plus the partner's pension on a risk basis if:

- you were not in new employment and passed away within six months of leaving employment,
- you were entitled to unemployment or sickness benefit and you pass away during the period you were receiving that benefit
- you opted for extended cover of the risk partner's pension after the end of one of the above two situations.

#### **You are retired and you pass away**

In this situation, your partner may be entitled to the partner's pension agreed at retirement.

**Important:** In this situation, the amount of the partner's pension depends on the choice you made when you retired. When you retire, you can, for instance, opt to exchange part of your occupational retirement pension for extra partner's pension. Or exchange your built-up partner's pension for additional occupational retirement pension.

#### **You are fully or partially occupationally disabled and you are entitled to non-contributory continuation of your pension and you pass away**

In this situation, your partner will be entitled to any partner's pension built up in the scheme before 1 January 2026 plus the part on a risk basis for which you are entitled to non-contributory continuation or build up pension yourself because you work for the part you are still occupationally disabled for work at an employer in the Bpf Koopvaardij.

### **Risk cover: extra security**

Are you leaving employment and have no new employment during this period? In this situation, you will be entitled to 6 months of run-off cover with Bpf Koopvaardij. This means that your surviving dependants will continue to receive a pension for a further 6 months should you pass away. Are you receiving unemployment or sickness benefits? If so, cover for partner's pension will remain in place during the period you receive such benefits.

If the period continues for more than 6 months or you find new employment outside the merchant navy, you can voluntarily continue risk cover for partner's pension paid from your pension assets. The partner's pension starts on the first day of the month in which you pass away. It ends on the last day of the month in which your partner passes away.

#### **\*Who is your partner?**

The term 'partner' refers to your spouse, the partner with whom you have a registered partnership, the partner with whom you have entered into a notarised cohabitation contract, or the partner with whom you have agreed a cohabitation declaration. In order to qualify for a partner's pension, the marriage, registered partnership, or cohabitation contract must have existed or been drawn up prior to the date on which you begin receiving your pension. In principle, you must also have entered into the cohabitation declaration before the pension takes effect.



If you and your partner cohabit, you must have lived together for at least 6 months and have been registered with your municipality's population register as residing at the same address. Needless to say, you must not have been married or entered into a registered partnership with another partner. Your partner can apply for a partner's pension after your passing. At that time, a determination will be made of whether your partner meets the conditions for receiving the partner's pension.

Bpf Koopvaardij has a link with the Persons Database (BRP). This means that if you live in the Netherlands, we are automatically notified if you get married or enter into a registered partnership. In that case, you need not take the step of registering your spouse/partner with us. When you pass away, we will inform your partner about the partner's pension.

### **When should you provide us with details of your civil status yourself?**

In some cases, we do not automatically receive a change in your civil status and/or your partner's details from the BRP. It is therefore important that you provide us with the information yourself in the following cases:

- when you start living together in the Netherlands with a notarised cohabitation contract.
- when you live abroad and get married, enter into a registered partnership, or conclude a notarial cohabitation contract.
- when you live in the Netherlands and you break your notarial cohabitation contract\*.
- when you live abroad and are getting divorced, you break your registered partnership or cohabitation contract\*.
- when you have a cohabitation declaration with your partner.

*\* Your ex-partner may be eligible for part of the partner's pension after your passing. This is referred to as a special partner's pension. More information on this can be found on page 12 under 'Pension and separation'.*

If you live abroad and pass away, your partner must notify us of your passing. We can then inform your partner about the partner's pension.

### **Exchanging partner's pension for extra occupational retirement pension**

If you do not have a partner or your partner has sufficient income or pension himself or herself, you can consider exchanging all or part of the partner's pension for extra occupational retirement pension. If you are interested in exchanging partner's pension for occupational retirement pension, think carefully before making this important choice. This is because you can make this choice only once: at the time you retire. Following your passing, your partner will receive no pension, or a reduced pension, from Bpf Koopvaardij if a full or partial exchange has taken place. It has happened that pensioners who have made this choice later discovered that they had made a mistake. As a result, either they or their partner missed out on receiving pension benefit.

The exchange of your partner's pension will not affect the orphan's pension or special partner's pension. The special partner's pension is the part of the partner's pension for any ex-partner. Pension funds are obliged to reserve the special partner's pension if you have an ex-partner. Therefore, the special partner's pension cannot be exchanged.

### **Do you have a partner?**

If so, you must complete the partner's pension waiver together. This means your partner waives all or part of the partner's pension. You complete the waiver form when you apply for your occupational retirement pension.

### **What happens if you do not have a partner?**

We automatically exchange the partner's pension for a higher occupational retirement pension for yourself when you apply for your pension.

### **Exchanging part of occupational retirement pension for additional partner's pension**

When you choose this, your partner will receive a higher partner's pension after your passing. This can be done only before you retire. Conditions are:

- the new partner's pension must be a maximum of 70% of your occupational retirement pension;
- the partner's pension, together with any special partner's pension, must be a maximum of 100% of your occupational retirement pension.

### **Orphan's pension**

Your children may receive an orphan's pension each month after your passing. This will also apply to any stepchildren

and/or foster children living in your household. They receive orphan's pension until they turn 25. If your partner also passes away, the orphan's pension will be doubled. The orphan's pension takes effect from the first day of the month in which you pass away.

**Your situation on the date of your passing will affect the amount of your orphan's pension. An overview:**

**You build up pension and you pass away before your state pension date**

In that case, your children will each receive a percentage of your pensionable salary plus possibly the orphan's pension built up in the scheme before 1 January 2026.

**You no longer build up pension and you pass away before you retire**

Your children are entitled to any orphan's pension built up in the scheme before 1 January 2026 plus the orphan's pension on a risk basis if:

- you were not in new employment within 6 months of leaving employment and you pass away
- you were entitled to unemployment or sickness benefits and pass away during the period you were entitled to benefits
- you have opted for extended cover of the risk orphan's pension.

**You are retired and you pass away**

In this case, your children will each receive a percentage of the occupational retirement pension you were paid plus possibly the orphan's pension built up from the scheme before 1 January 2026. You are fully or partially occupationally disabled and you pass away. Your children will each receive a percentage of the full or partial pensionable salary.



# Exceptional circumstances and your pension

## Pension and separation

### Occupational retirement pension

Should you divorce, become legally separated, or terminate your registered partnership, your ex-partner will be entitled to receive half of the occupational retirement pension entitlements you built up during your marriage or registered partnership. This is called equalisation. There is no right to equalisation in the case of termination of cohabitation. In the case of equalisation, your ex-partner will receive his or her part of the occupational retirement pension from the date that you retire. This means that this pension for your ex-partner will therefore not start when he or she retires. This pension stops when you pass away. A government form on how to divide occupational retirement pension in the case of divorce can be found at [www.koopvaardij.nl/en/member/downloads](http://www.koopvaardij.nl/en/member/downloads). To ensure that the payment to your ex-partner can be made via the fund, you need to complete and send us the 'Dividing occupational retirement pension in the case of divorce application form'. Send the form within 2 years after you are divorced or your registered partnership has ended. If your ex-partner passes away, the portion of your occupational retirement pension that has been allocated to your ex-partner will revert to you.

### You can make other arrangements on the division of your pension in the case of divorce

You can choose to make other arrangements with your partner yourself on the division of your pension in the case of divorce, legal separation or termination of registered partnership. For example, instead of the standard distribution of 50% each, you can choose a distribution of 60% and 40%. Make sure you keep a clear record of your pension arrangements. For instance, in a prenuptial agreement, partnership conditions or a divorce agreement. Send this document to the pension fund within 2 years of your divorce.

### Independent pension for your ex-partner

When divorcing, you can also opt for conversion. The part of your occupational retirement pension for your ex-partner and the special partner's pension for your ex-partner will then be completely separated. This is converted for your ex-partner into his or her own right to an occupational retirement pension. This requires the consent of Bpf Koopvaardij and your ex-partner. This pension is paid at your ex-partner's state pension age and ends when your ex-partner passes away. Your ex-partner

(like you) can also have the occupational retirement pension start earlier or later than his or her state pension date. As your ex-partner receives an independent right to pension in the case of conversion, you will have no right to his or her share of your occupational retirement pension when your ex-partner passes away.

### Special partner's pension

A special partner's pension is a partner's pension for the ex-partner or ex-partners of a member, former member or a retired member. Your first ex-partner is entitled to the partner's pension you built up until the end of your relationship. This is any partner's pension built up in the old pension scheme until 1 January 2026 and the partner's pension in the event of passing after the retirement date built up from 1 January 2026. A subsequent ex-partner or ex-partners are entitled to the partner's pension you built up during your new marriage, registered partnership, notarised cohabitation contract or cohabitation declaration. The special partner's pension starts on the first day of the month in which you pass away and ends on the last day of the month in which your ex-partner passes away.

If you marry again after your divorce, enter into a registered partnership, notarised cohabitation contract or cohabitation declaration during your membership of the pension scheme, your new partner will also receive a partner's pension upon your passing. The partner's pension your new partner receives will then be the partner's pension on a risk basis (a percentage of your pensionable salary) if you pass away while building up pension with Bpf Koopvaardij and the post-retirement partner's pension built up with Bpf Koopvaardij from your divorce date. Do you think this is insufficient for your new partner and do you have a sufficient occupational retirement pension? If so, you can think about exchanging part of your occupational retirement pension for additional partner's pension. More about the exchange options can be found on page 10.

### Pension and occupational disability

Are you fully or partially occupationally disabled within the meaning of WIA? If so, you can continue to build up pension at Bpf Koopvaardij. Depending on your occupational disability percentage, Bpf Koopvaardij will pay part of your pension contribution. This is referred to as non-contributory membership. The table below shows



the maximum percentage for which you can continue membership without paying contributions.

### In case of WIA

Percentage of occupational disability	Percentage non-contributory membership
80-100%	80%
65-80%	60%
35-65%	40%
0-35%	0%

If the percentage for which you are occupationally disabled changes, then the percentage of your non-contributory continuation may also change. In the case of occupational disability, your pension build-up will therefore continue as normal until state pension age at the latest.

### Conditions for partial non-contributory membership

To be eligible, you must meet the conditions below. Bpf Koopvaardij receives information from the UVW about your occupational disability percentage (and any changes to it). You therefore do not need to inform Bpf Koopvaardij that you are occupationally disabled.

- you are entitled to WIA benefits;
- you provide Bpf Koopvaardij with the information we need for your non-contributory membership;
- you were a member on the first day of illness.

Partially non-contributory membership stops:

- on your retirement date, but no later than when you reach your state pension date, or in the event of your earlier passing;
- if you are declared occupationally disabled for less than 35%;
- if you do not provide Bpf Koopvaardij with the information we need for your non-contributory membership.

### Voluntary continuation of membership

Once your membership of the pension scheme is no longer mandatory, you may continue your membership at your own expense if you meet certain conditions. We call this voluntary continuation of your pension build-up. For instance, if you start working outside the industry and do

not build up any pension or if you become a self-employed person. In that case you will continue to build up pension. This is allowed for a maximum of 3 years. In the case of voluntary continuation, the pension contribution is calculated on the basis of the last pensionable earnings. You will have to pay the full contribution, both the employer's and employee's share. You must submit your application for voluntary continuation to Bpf Koopvaardij within 9 months after your mandatory membership ends.

### WW, ZW and SPAWW

What if your employment contract ends and you subsequently receive unemployment or sickness benefits? In some cases of unemployment, you can continue to build up pension entitlements if you submit an application within nine months after the end of your mandatory membership. This may then be possible at a reduced contribution as long as you receive an unemployment or sickness benefit. An unemployment benefit continues for 2 years at the most. In the 3rd year, you pay the full contribution.

A number of employers within the industry have insured the '3rd WW (unemployment benefit) year' via a collective agreement. This is a private arrangement that has been placed with the Private Supplement WW and WGA Foundation (Stichting Private Aanvulling WW en WGA, SPAWW). If you receive a benefit from SPAWW after the WW benefit ends, and the build-up during WW was at a reduced contribution, the build-up during SPAWW will also be at a reduced contribution.

### End of your membership

#### Built-up pension

Does your membership in the pension scheme end, for example because you are no longer working in the industry?

If so, your pension will remain with Bpf Koopvaardij. Members whose membership has stopped are called former members or ex-members. You will receive confirmation that your membership has stopped within three months of leaving employment and an overview of the pension you have built up. You will subsequently receive an overview each year showing your built-up pension.

## Pension transfer

If you take a job outside the merchant navy, you may find yourself dealing with a different pension administrator. You can choose to transfer your pension to your new pension fund, pension insurer or defined contribution pension institution (PPI). We refer to this as a 'pension transfer'. A pension transfer has the advantage that you have all your pension with a single pension administrator and therefore receive pension later from one pension administrator. However, pension schemes may differ. It is therefore important to check whether a pension transfer is worthwhile for you. For this, request a quote from your new pension administrator. For example, consider the value of your pension. The likelihood of a pension increase may be greater or smaller at another pension administrator. Check whether your partner will continue to be entitled to partner's pension after you have left employment. And what pension options are available. This will indicate whether transferring your pension will be beneficial. It would be advisable for you to consult your employer or a professional advisor before taking this decision. The financial situation of the pension administrator is also important.

Pension transfer also works in reverse: you can transfer the pension you built up with a previous pension fund, pension insurer or PPI to Bpf Koopvaardij. Complete the Pension Transfer request form at [www.koopvaardij.nl/en/](http://www.koopvaardij.nl/en/)

[member/downloads](#) or arrange a pension transfer on My Koopvaardij. If your previous pension fund not yet switched to a new pension scheme, unfortunately you cannot yet transfer your pension to Bpf Koopvaardij. However, you can submit your application to us in the meantime.

## Small pensions are automatically transferred

Pensions (calculated on the basis of the amount of your built-up pension assets) below the statutory commutation limit of €632.63 (2026) are automatically transferred to your new pension fund, insurer or PPI. You do not need to do anything. For more information, go to [www.koopvaardij.nl/klein-pensioen](http://www.koopvaardij.nl/klein-pensioen).



## Will your pension retain its value?

In the pension scheme from 2026, your pension may increase faster if the economy is performing favourably. That's because we need to keep less money on hand. If the state of the economy is less favourable, pensions can also decrease. This increase or decrease will be smaller if you have retired (or are almost retired). We take care of that with the distribution capital. We can also keep pensions stable by means of a buffer for setbacks: the solidarity reserve. We build this up in more favourable times so that we can absorb or mitigate a pension fall in less favourable times. Good to know: we spread out windfalls and setbacks over several years.

Bpf Koopvaardij has increased pensions over the past three years as follows:

- over 2025 by 1.27%. Prices then increased by 3.3%;
- over 2024 by 3.26%. Prices then increased by 3.3%;
- over 2023 by 10.84%. Prices increased at that time by 12.44%;

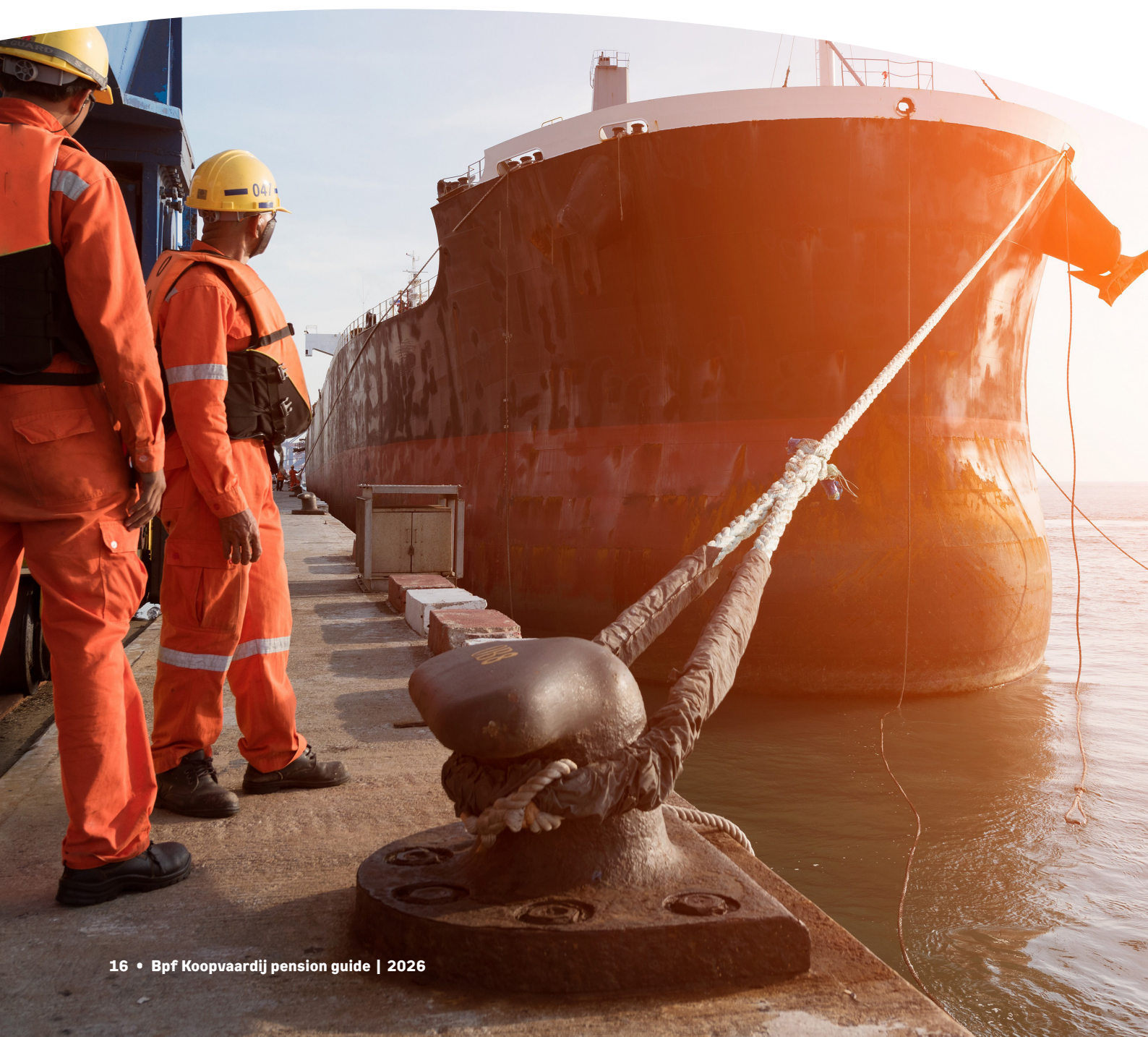
These are adjustments to the old scheme, i.e. until 1 January 2026.

# Your information supply

As long as you remain a member, you will receive a Uniform Pension Overview (UPO) from Bpf Koopvaardij each year. This is a statement of the total amount in pension you have built up up to and including 31 December of the previous calendar year. The overview shows you how much pension you are expected to receive if you continue your membership of Bpf Koopvaardij's pension scheme until your state pension date. We advise you to check your pension details. If you suspect that the information is incorrect, please contact Bpf Koopvaardij.

## Will you keep us informed too?

You are obliged to keep us informed of changes in your personal situation. If you see an error in the information you receive from us, you are also obliged to inform us as soon as possible.



# Complaints procedure

Do you have a complaint?

Even though we do our best to arrange the matters relating to your pension as well as possible, you might still have a complaint about something. You can find our complaint procedure at [www.koopvaardij.nl/en/complaints](http://www.koopvaardij.nl/en/complaints). You can send your complaint to:

**Stichting Bedrijfspensioenfonds voor de Koopvaardij**

t.a.v. de klachtencoördinator

Postbus 97614

NL-2509 GA Den Haag

[servicedesk@koopvaardij.nl](mailto:servicedesk@koopvaardij.nl)

+31 88 007 98 99



# Glossary

What follows is an explanation of the pension terms and abbreviations used in this brochure.

## Pension entitlement

The right the member or former member has, or their surviving dependents have, to receive future pension benefits in the event of the member or former member's passing.

## State pension

The state pension provides benefits for the elderly. In 2026, the state pension will start from the age of 67.

## Special partner's pension

Intended for the ex-partner. If the marriage, registered domestic partnership, or other partnership as defined by the pension scheme ends, the member's (or former member's) ex-partner will, under certain conditions, have a contribution-free claim to a special partner's pension.

## Conversion

In the event of divorce, legal separation, or termination of a registered domestic partnership, the ex-partner will be entitled to payment of part of the occupational retirement pension. The ex-partner may convert this portion of the occupational retirement pension and the special partner's pension into an independent personal right to an occupational retirement pension. This is called conversion.

## State pension offset

The portion of the pensionable salary on which the member does not pay contributions and thus does not build up pension entitlements. This portion of the salary is excluded when calculating the pension amount because the member will also be receiving a state pension after retirement.

## Registered partnership

Partners can register their partnership at the civil register of births, marriages and deaths. In principle, registered domestic partners have the same rights and obligations as married persons.

## Joint household

You run a joint household if you cohabit, care for each other and can prove it. This can be done by means of:

- a notarised cohabitation contract, or
- a cohabitation declaration signed by both of you, or
- (following passing) a statement from the partner

confirming that you lived together and cared for one another, for example through 6 months' registration at the same address, a child you have together, or a property purchase or rental agreement in both your names.

Do either of you live in a care home? Then you remain partners as long as neither of you gives written notice that you no longer wish to be partners.

## Former members

Former members, also known as ex-members, are previous members. They no longer pay contributions and thus no longer build up new pension entitlements. The entitlements they built up in the past, and which remain in their accounts with Bpf Koopvaardij, are referred to as 'non-contributory entitlements' or 'deferred rights'.

## Lifelong occupational retirement pension

Pension benefit paid by default from state pension age.

## Partner

Your partner is the person with whom you:

- are married
- in a registered partnership
- cohabit and run a joint household. \*

In the case of cohabitation, you must live at the same address and not be immediate family members.

You cannot be the partner of someone who is an immediate family member, such as:

- a parent or child (first degree),
- a grandparent or grandchild (second degree in the direct line),
- an adult stepchild or an adult former foster child.

## Retirement date

The first day of the month in which the member reaches state pension age.

## Pensionable salary

Pensionable salary consists of the following components:

1. Basic allowance;
2. Tanker increase (tv);
3. Holiday allowance (vt);



4. Overtime surcharge of 15% over component 1+2+3 unless the overtime is already fully or partly included in the basic pay or basic allowance;
5. Additional surcharge of 5% over component 1+2+3 if, according to the collective agreement or employment contract – in addition to components 1 to 4, inclusive – there are additional allowances. As of 1 January 2019, employers with a collective agreement have the option not to apply the additional surcharge of 5%. However, the collective agreements with Nautilus International would then have to compensate for the adverse financial impact on seafarers.

### **Pensionable earnings**

Your pensionable earnings are the pensionable pay, less the state pension offset.

### **Contribution**

The amount that the employer and employee jointly contribute for the employee's pension.

### **Non-contributory membership in case of occupational disability**

Continued build up of pension entitlements in the case of occupational disability without the member having to pay contribution.

### **Equalisation**

The Pension Benefits (Divorce, Legal Separation and Termination of Registered Partnership) Equalisation Act entered into effect on 1 May 1995. This law provides for the division of built up occupational retirement pension entitlements in cases of divorce, legal separation, or termination of registered domestic partnership.

### **Pension transfer**

Transferring pension to another pension fund or other pension insurer or defined contribution pension institution (PPI).

### **Work and Income (Fitness for Work) Act (WIA)**

This law, which came into force on 29 December 2005, is the successor to the WAO. If an employee is on sick leave for longer than two years, he or she may be entitled to receive a WIA benefit.

# Important organisations

These are the contact data of the organisations, except for the Dutch Shipmasters' Association [Nederlandse Vereniging van Kapiteins ter Koopvaardij], whose boards appoint the board members of Bpf Koopvaardij:

## **Vereniging Sociaal Maritiem Werkgeversverbond**

Boompjes 40  
3011 XB Rotterdam  
Telefoon: 010 - 414 60 01

## **Vereniging van Werkgevers in de Handelsvaart**

Boompjes 40  
3011 XB Rotterdam  
Telefoon: 010 - 414 60 01

## **Nautilus International**

Pegasusweg 200  
3067 KW Rotterdam  
Telefoon: 010 - 477 11 88

## **Nederlandse Vereniging van Kapiteins ter Koopvaardij**

Wassenaarseweg 2  
2596 CH Den Haag  
070 - 383 61 76



# Need more information?

You will find more information on our website at [www.koopvaardij.nl/en](http://www.koopvaardij.nl/en).

Disclaimer: No rights can be derived from the content of this Pension Guide.

Always state your personal number or citizen service number when contacting us so that we can help you more easily.

Telephone number	: +31 88 007 98 99
Monday to Thursday	: 8.00 tot 17.30 uur
Friday	: 8.00 tot 17.00 uur
E-mail	: <a href="mailto:servicedesk@koopvaardij.nl">servicedesk@koopvaardij.nl</a>

You can also send us a letter by post to:

**Bedrijfspensioenfonds voor de Koopvaardij**

Postbus 97614  
2509 GA Den Haag

