

Penzijní společnost České pojišťovny

The largest pension savings provider in the Czech Republic.

We manage savings of more than over CZK 108 billion for over 1.1 million customers. We look after the pension savings schemes of employees from more than 5,000 companies.

For a good two decades, we have been the strongest pension company on the pension savings market in the Czech Republic.

We deliver a top-notch service. Secure access to www.klientskyportal.cz enables customers to control their account online. Daňový servis (Tax Service) makes it easier for them to capitalise on maximum tax concessions. We offer the new-generation electronic portal for financial advisers.

Supplementary pension savings in general

1. How do new supplementary pension savings differ from the former pension savings schemes? What are the main differences? What are the advantages and disadvantages of the individual products?

Both products differ in a number of parameters. Of these, we chose e.g.

	Pension savings schemes	Supplementary pension savings
Governing law	In particular Act No. 42/1994 Coll., on pension savings schemes and Act No. 427/2011 Coll., on supplementary pension savings	In particular Act No. 427/2011 Coll., on supplementary pension savings
Who can participate	Any natural person at least 18 years age who has permanent residence in CZ or resides in another EU country and simultaneously participates in the Czech public health or pension insurance scheme	Any natural person at least 18 years of age and as of 2016, also a minor
Value of contribution	Does not differ (only the minimum value of the personal contribution was equal to 100	Does not differ



CZK until 31 Dec. 2012)		
Value of state contribution	Does not differ (but until 31 Dec. 2012 the value was governed by the Act on pension savings schemes and the pension plan)	Does not differ
Method of payment	Surrender One-off settlement Regular pension Disability pension	Surrender Partial surrender at 18 years One-off settlement Regular pension Disability pension Payment via the insurer
Claim to surrender	After 12 paid months	After 24 paid months
Partial surrender	Cannot be paid	Equal to 1/3 of the client's contribution in the year of their 18th birthday after paying for minimally 120 months
Service pension	It is agreed that the claim arises after 180 months paid	Not agreed
Guaranteed non-negative appreciation	Yes	No

2. Is state support credited and can tax deductions be applied? What is the optimum amount to obtain the maximum state contribution?

State support is granted to a client who met the legally stipulated requirements in the given month for which the state contribution is provided and paid a contribution of at least 300 CZK.

The legally stipulated requirements for the client as are follows:

- permanent residence in CZ or
- residence in an EU/EEC member state and simultaneously:
 - the client participates in pension insurance pursuant to domestic legal regulations, or
 - the client collects a retirement pension from pension insurance, or
 - the client participates in public health insurance in CZ.

The value of state contribution is stipulated:

- for client contributions equal to 300 - 999 CZK it is 90 CZK and 20% of the amount exceeding 300 CZK, and
- for contributions of 1000 CZK or more it is 230 CZK.

The value of state support for the client' contribution variants is shown in the following table:

Value of state contribution										
Client's monthly contribution in CZK	100	200	300	400	500	600	1000	1500	2000	3000
State's monthly contribution in CZK	-	-	90	110	130	150	230	230	230	230
Annual income tax discount in CZK	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	900	1800	3600
Total annual benefit from the state in CZK	-	-	1080	1320	1560	1800	2760	3660	4560	6360

It is evident from the table that the optimum amount to obtain the maximum state contribution is 1000 CZK.

If the client's monthly savings exceed 1000 CZK, the resources paid in excess of this amount are deductible from the personal income tax base. However, maximally up to 24,000 CZK, even if the highest state contribution is not collected. Simply pay the amount of the tax deduction and a contribution for December up to 1000 CZK.

3. Remuneration, fees and differences between them?

Remuneration is paid from the assets in the subscriber fund, whereas its consists of remuneration for managing fund assets and remuneration for appreciation of fund assets. The remuneration is used to cover all the costs paid by the pension company in connection to its business in retirement and supplementary pension savings for third parties.

In addition to remuneration, by law the pension company is also entitled to one-time fees from the subscriber, e.g. for change of strategy and so on.

The sum of all the fees and remuneration is available in the pricelist of fees and remunerations of PSČP.

4. What does it mean that positive appreciation is not guaranteed? (Can I lose all my saved money?)

Given the unforeseeable fluctuations on financial markets, there may be changes in the value of managed assets, and thus the value of the Unit may rise and fall and the return on invested resources is not always guaranteed. Nevertheless, given the long-term nature of the product (the client saves for ten, twenty or more years), portfolio diversification (resources are invested into a wide range of investment assets and the price of all assets at one moment in time cannot be expected) and the caution and active management of the pension company, it is highly unlikely that the client would lose all their saved assets.



5. Account number, payment symbols

Payments to supplementary pension savings must be sent as follows:

- Client's contribution
 - Account number 840111280/2700
 - The variable symbol is the client's personal number (insurance number in the case of foreigners)
 - The specific symbol is the contract number
- Employer's contribution
 - Account number 840111280/2700
 - The variable symbol is 00 + employer's ID number
 - The specific symbol is the client's personal number (insurance number in case of foreigners)
- Payment of contributions from abroad
 - Name and address of bank: UniCredit Bank Czech Republic and Slovakia, a. s., Želetavská 1525/1, 140 92 Prague 4
 - Account number 840111280/2700
 - IBAN - CZ1027000000000840111280
 - SWIFT (BIC) - BACX CZ PP

Contributions must be sent so that they are credited to the pension company's account by the end of the given calendar month.

Payments to supplementary pension savings may be sent as bulk payments. A bulk payment refers to the payment of contributions for all employees in the given fund at one as one sum. The condition for allocating a code for bulk payments is a minimum of 10 payments.

6. Information for employers

The employer's contribution to supplementary pension savings is a tax-eligible cost for the company in unlimited amount, if regulated by a collective agreement, employment contract or the company's internal regulation. Neither the company nor the employee pay social and health insurance from contributions of up to 50,000 CZK per year (total limit for contributions to pension savings and life insurance).

Moreover, the contribution to pension savings of up to 50,000 CZK is exempted from income tax for the employee (if the employer does not contribute to life insurance).

Conclusion of a 3rd pillar contract

1. What are the conditions for joining the 3rd pillar?

Based on the contract signed with the pension company, the subscriber to supplementary pension savings may only be a natural person, without restrictions on age (until the end of 2015, only 18 years of age or more), who simultaneously does not save in a transformed fund with any pension company (under a pension savings scheme contract concluded before 1 Dec. 2012).



2. It is possible to arrange disability, service and inheritance pension?

Pensions as such are not arranged, but the law allows for the selection of the respective similar allowance (disability pension Section 22; inheritance pension Section 24). Service pension is not supported by the Act on supplementary pension savings

3. Is transfer from a transformed to a subscriber fund possible?

The transfer of resources from a transformed fund (pension savings scheme) to a subscriber fund (supplementary pension savings) is possible within the same company. If the client has several contracts in the transformed fund, they must first be merged into one contract, or the other contracts must be settled.

Course of savings in the 3rd pillar

1. Can I change the value of the contribution, or interrupt regular saving?

Yes, in the supplementary pension savings system, it is possible to increase or reduce contributions by amending the contract, whereas the client can report the increase of subscriber contributions via telephone to the customer help line. Due to the impact on drawing state contributions, decreases of the contribution are accepted only in writing.

Furthermore, it is possible to defer or interrupt the payment of contributions due to unexpected complications (e.g. the client can not save for the time being).

The condition for deferral is its written agreement with an effective date in the future, but no earlier than from the 1st day of the following month after delivery of the request. The maximum deferral period is 12 months and the contributions must be repaid at latest within 6 months from the end of deferral. The deferral period for which the client pay contributions retroactively is included in the saving period, but state contributions cannot be collected for these retroactively paid contributions

The interruption of savings is effective from the date specified by the client in the written notice, but at earliest from the 1st day of the following month after delivery of the request. The period of interruption of paying contributions is not included in the savings period.

2. Can an employer or other person contribute?

Yes, the supplementary pension savings system allows contributions from the employer, if the subscriber to savings agrees, whereas the subscriber is obliged to inform the pension company of this fact beforehand in writing. A state contribution is not provided for the employer's contribution. Contributions from third parties are not permitted within supplementary pension savings.

3. Can savings be transferred to another company in the course of savings?

Yes, if the supplementary pension savings expired, the client requested this transfer and concluded a new contract with another pension company. The pension company may charge a fee of maximally 800 CZK for the transfer. With the request to transfer the resources, the client is obliged to submit consent from the pension company to which the resources are to be transferred. The actual transfer must be carried out within 1 month from the expiry of the supplementary pension savings. The savings period is accumulated for the subscriber in the case of transfer.



Savings for children

1. Since when is it possible to arrange pension savings for children?

The arrangement of “children’s pension savings” is possible since 1 Jan. 2016, and the product can be used without restriction on age. Until this date, pension savings were designated only for clients 18 years of age or more.

2. Who can arrange pension savings for children?

Naturally, of the child’s legal guardians. Also, any other third party such as a grandparent, if they submit power of attorney from a legal guardian (usually at least one of the parents).

However, the contract for a child cannot be concluded by a parent who has been declared bankrupt by the insolvency court.

3. Which documents will be needed to conclude the contract?

Anybody who concludes a contract must submit their identification card. The legal guardian confirms their right to act on behalf of the child by means of an affidavit, which is part of the contract form. A third party will submit power of attorney from the legal guardian with the legal guardian’s signature. This power of attorney need not be certified by a notary, but it must be delivered to the pension company on time.

In the case of a foreigner, documents proving the claim to a state contribution must be submitted - see question 2 in the section Supplementary pension savings in general.

4. Can I conclude a contract and submit power of attorney later?

Yes. However, the power of attorney must be sent to the pension company as soon as possible after signing the contract. If the power of attorney not delivered within 14 days from signing, the contract will be cancelled.

5. When can child savings be terminated?

In general, it applies that the contract may be prematurely terminated no sooner than after 2 years of saving. This condition also applies to child pension savings. In the case of premature termination, we will return all state contributions to the MF and the client will receive their savings and yields. However, the request must include e.g. a decision of the court - permission to terminate the contract with indication of the date of legal force.

6. When will the saved resources be available to the child?

- a) At 18 years of age as partial surrender, when they can collect 1/3 of the value of the client’s contributions, whereas the contract continues with the remaining savings.
- b) As surrender, when they can collect all their savings, whereas the state contributions will be returned to the Ministry of Finance and the contract will be terminated. However, if the client is less than 18 years of age at the time of premature termination, it is necessary to submit e.g. a court decision - permission terminate the contract with indication of the date of legal force.
- c) At 60 years of age as one-time settlement or a regular pension. This form of termination means collecting the state contribution, and in the case of regular pension also tax exemptions.



7. What are the conditions for collection through partial surrender?

There are three legal conditions which the client must fulfil simultaneously. Collection through partial surrender is possible only during the 18th year of age. The savings plan must have lasted at least 120 calendar months. There was no transfer from a different pension company in the past 24 months.

8. Is there a guarantee that the child cannot lose the invested resources?

For supplementary pension savings, the guaranteed positive zero no longer applies, but if the client chooses one of the three savings programs, the risk of loss is negligible. All of our savings programs include a special investment brake.

9. Can I as a parent apply a tax exemption on the child pension plan?

No. The tax exemption may be applied only by the person for whom the contract is agreed, not the person who pays the contributions.

10. Can a foreigner conclude a contract?

Yes. However, to collect the state contribution it is necessary to submit documents proving the claim to a state contribution - see question 2 in the section Supplementary pension savings in general.

Termination of the contracting, drawing the saved resources

1. Can savings be terminated prematurely? Under what conditions?

Yes, the contract on supplementary pension savings may be terminated prematurely with surrender, which may be paid at earliest after 24 months of saving. The value of surrender is the value of the client's resources, after deducting the state contributions which the pension company will return to the state budget. During payment, the yields and received contributions of the employer are subject to withholding tax.

2. How can I draw on my resources?

The subscriber's saved resources may be paid out as follows:

- a) one-off settlement,
- b) surrender,
- c) old-age pension for a designated period,
- d) disability pension for a designated period,
- e) payment of one-off premiums for lifetime pension,
- f) payment of a one-off premium for pension for a precisely stipulated period with a precisely stipulated pension value,
- g) pre-pension (version of old-age pension for a designated period),
- h) partial surrender at 18 years.

3. What happens if the subscriber dies? Is it possible to designate beneficiaries? How does inheritance work?

Before the claim to one-time settlement arises:



- In the case of death before the claim to one-time settlement or regular pension arises, the client's saved resources are paid in the form of surrender to the designated beneficiary or heirs.

After the claim to one-time settlement arises:

- In the case of death after the claim to one-time settlement or regular pension arises, the saved resources including state contributions are paid to the designated beneficiary or heir (based on the decision from inheritance proceedings).

If the subscriber died and was already paid the pension, the designated beneficiary is entitled to one-off settlement in the amount equal to the as yet unpaid part of the client's resources.

If a claim to one-time settlement existed and no designated beneficiary was agreed in the contract, the one-time settlement becomes the subject of inheritance.

4. When does the claim to payment arise?

Requirements to terminate the contract:

- a) Standard termination
 - At earliest upon reaching 60 years of age and minimally 60 duly paid months of contract duration (claim to old-age pension and one-off settlement)
 - At earliest five years before reaching retirement age and minimally 60 duly paid months of contract duration (claim to pre-pension).
- b) Surrender
 - After minimally 24 duly paid months
 - Partial surrender after minimally 120 duly paid months, 18 years of age and no transfer from another pension company in the last 24 months.
- c) Disability pension
 - Granting of disability pension for third-degree disability and minimally 36 duly paid months of contract duration.

Administrative proceedings

1. Can the contract be blocked by distraintment proceedings?

Yes. Pension savings may be blocked by distraintment proceeding pursuant to Act No. 120/2001 Coll., on court distrainers and distraintment activity.

2. Can a client who is registered in distraintment or insolvency proceedings terminate the contract?

Yes, assuming they meet the conditions for due termination of the contract. Communication with the distrainer's offices or insolvency trustees is ensured by the pension company.