

# Salary Protection Scheme

For SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA

Scheme Summary





# Perhaps the greatest threat to your livelihood is ill health

If you fall ill, your sick pay provides you with an income for a limited period only. With the new Public Sector sick leave arrangements, this period is now even shorter than before. Once your sick pay runs out, your income will fall dramatically or cease entirely; a situation that many members unfortunately find themselves in. Have you ever considered how you and your family would cope, if you fell ill and lost your income as a result? The Salary Protection Scheme for SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and MLSA members, administered by Cornmarket, provides members with the financial security they deserve. The security and benefits of the Scheme are vital, that's why nearly 1,000\* members already enjoy the protection that the Scheme provides.

The 2012 Scheme review brought good news that the Scheme has made provision for the new Public Sector sick pay arrangements. This is an extremely important benefit for Scheme members, and a great deal of work was done to ensure that this great benefit was secured. The Scheme has grown to become an important benefit of union membership, and it is well placed to provide vital protection for members, at an affordable cost, for many years to come.

Almost everything in your life depends on your income. Please don't risk your future financial security. If you haven't already joined the Scheme, I would urge you to do so now.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ivan Ahern".

**Ivan Ahern**  
Director,  
Cornmarket Group Financial Services Ltd.

\* Cornmarket July 2014.

# Cornmarket's role as Administrators

## Cornmarket – working for you

Cornmarket has been administering Salary Protection Schemes for members of Public Sector trade unions for over 40 years. This Scheme helps to guarantee a realistic level of income in the event of loss of salary through illness.

### Our role includes:

1. Negotiating with the insurers (currently Irish Life) to obtain the most competitive rates and to secure the best possible benefits.
2. Assisting SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA who wish to make a claim from the Scheme, by guiding them through every stage of the claims process and acting as the members' advocate.
3. Promoting the Scheme to SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA.

**With almost €1.9 million\* paid out to SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA and their families, the Scheme provides invaluable peace of mind that you have a level of protection in place for when you may need it most.**

\*Source: Irish Life Claims Department, August 2014.



# A Claims Service you can trust

Cornmarket has its own dedicated, in-house Salary Protection Claims Team. The team members are specialised, well-informed and easy to talk to, and will do all they can to help in a member's time of need.

They provide a vital 'hand-holding' function from start to finish of the claims process. So should you need to make a claim, you can rest assured that it will be dealt with in the efficient, professional and sensitive manner that you deserve.

## The Scheme in Action

Through its various Salary Protection Schemes, Cornmarket has helped protect the financial security of more Public Sector employees than any other company in Ireland. But the real testament to the quality of these Schemes is the amount being paid out to beneficiaries, which is now counted in the hundreds of millions of Euro. Here's what just two of the people who have benefited from our Salary Protection Schemes have to say.

“Just think what your life would be like if there was no salary coming through that door.”

**Margaret Carolan,**  
Scheme Beneficiary,  
Co. Wicklow.

“It’s bad enough having to give up your work through illness. Just think what your life would be like if there was no salary coming through that door. If I hadn’t got the money coming into me every month, I wouldn’t be able to pay the mortgage, I wouldn’t have the car that I need, I wouldn’t be able to finance my kids doing what they’re doing at the moment, I wouldn’t have any holidays. I wouldn’t have any hope for the future.”

“If I hadn’t gotten this, then I’d have had to borrow from the Credit Union or find the money some other way.”

**Seamus McAteer,**  
Scheme Beneficiary,  
Co. Meath.

“After 23 years of never being sick, never missing a day in school, I had a stroke with various complications and I was forced to stop teaching. Because I was in the Scheme it meant that what would have become a luxury, wasn’t. When the bill came in for Euro Languages Colleges for my daughter or for my son’s halls of residence at DCU, I could just write the cheque. We didn’t have to worry about it. If I hadn’t gotten this, then I’d have had to borrow from the Credit Union or find the money some other way.”

**Please refer to the policy document for full details of how to claim from the Scheme.**

The document can be downloaded at:

**[www.cornmarket.ie/siptu](http://www.cornmarket.ie/siptu)**  
or **[www.cornmarket.ie/mlsa](http://www.cornmarket.ie/mlsa)**

# Why you need the Salary Protection Scheme

Although many members feel that they will never need the protection that the Scheme provides, sadly our experience has been that even the healthiest person can suffer unexpected illness or have a serious accident.

What is more, the changes to Public Sector sick leave arrangements which came into effect on 31st March 2014 mean a dramatic drop in your paid sick leave. Since the changes have been implemented, SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA without Salary Protection face greater financial uncertainty should they fall ill as they will be taken off the payroll sooner than before. Thankfully, the Scheme has made provision for these changes and will pay out Scheme benefits earlier than before, in line with members' needs. The Scheme provides essential protection for all SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA and membership has never been more vital.

## What happens to your income if you fall ill under the new sick leave arrangements?

### Standard Sick Leave

Under Public Sector sick leave arrangements introduced in 2014, typically you have access to paid sick leave of 13 weeks (92 days) at full pay in one year, followed by 13 weeks (91 days) at half pay. This is subject to a maximum of 26 weeks (183 days) in a rolling 4 year period. If you exceed 183 days paid sick leave you may receive Temporary Rehabilitation Remuneration for a further 18 months (548 days), subject to the terms of the Public Sector sick leave arrangements.



### **Extended Sick Leave for Critical Illness\***

Under the Public Sector sick leave arrangements, there is a Critical Illness Protocol whereby employees may be granted extended paid sick leave of 26 weeks (183 days) at full pay in one year, followed by 26 weeks (182 days) at half pay, subject to a maximum of 52 weeks (365 days) in a rolling 4 year period.

If you exceed 365 days paid sick leave, you may receive Temporary Rehabilitation Remuneration for a further 12 months (365 days). Temporary Rehabilitation Remuneration may be extended for a further period up to a maximum of 2 years (730 days).

### **Temporary Rehabilitation Remuneration**

Temporary Rehabilitation Remuneration (formerly referred to as Pension Rate of Pay) is based on your accrued pension benefits that would have applied had you actually retired on ill health grounds. It may be granted where there is a realistic prospect of an individual returning to work. However, any added years arising from purchase of service arrangements are not taken into account, as no retirement has actually taken place.

### **Ill Health Early Retirement Pension**

Alternatively, if you retire on the grounds of ill health you may be entitled to an Early Retirement Pension. Even if you have many years of service, your Ill Health Early Retirement Pension will only be a fraction of your salary. In addition, those paying PRSI at the 'A' rate may be entitled to a State Illness Benefit, but at just €9,776 (2014 level), the State Illness Benefit provides a subsistent income only.

The reality is that long-term illness inevitably means a severe drop in living standards. The need for some kind of additional income is vital.

\* There are certain criteria used to determine whether an illness qualifies for extended paid sick leave.

## How the Scheme works – Disability Benefit

Once your salary has reduced to half pay or Temporary Rehabilitation Remuneration is being paid, the Scheme aims to pay you an income of up to 75% of your salary less any other income (e.g. half pay, Temporary Rehabilitation Remuneration, Early Retirement Pension, State Illness Benefit) to which you may be entitled.

The Scheme goes on paying you until you recover, are deemed fit to return to work by Irish Life, die, or right up to your 65th birthday, if you are permanently disabled.

**Membership of the Scheme is more vital than ever.**

If a member making a claim decides not to apply for Early Retirement Pension (perhaps because he/she intends to return to work) and Irish Life agrees that there is a reasonable expectation of returning to work, then Irish Life may pay a benefit of 75% of salary less any State Illness Benefit/Temporary Rehabilitation Remuneration for a maximum of 2 years. This means no deduction will be made from the benefit paid under the Scheme for an amount equivalent to Early Retirement Pension, as no Early Retirement Pension is being claimed. If a member retires subsequently and an Early Retirement Pension is paid, the additional amount that was paid under the Scheme since the effective date of early retirement must naturally be repaid to the insurer.

### **Important**

You must remain a member of either SIPTU Allied Health Professionals or of the MLSA to remain an eligible member of the Scheme. If you leave either Union you must inform Cornmarket in writing, as you can no longer stay in the Scheme, and you will not be able to claim from it.

# Example of how the Scheme works

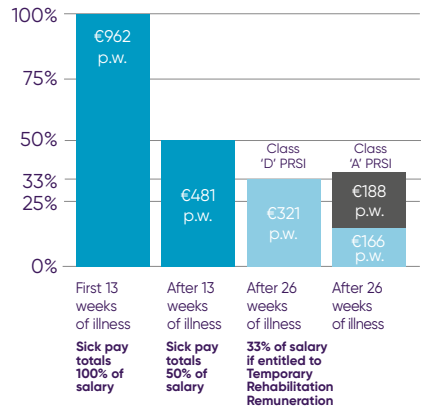
The example below is based on a Public Sector employee, who is a member of the Superannuation Scheme with 20 years' service earning €50,000 per annum, who is now unable to work due to illness or disability. It is assumed that standard Public Sector sick leave

arrangements apply (i.e. 13 weeks full pay in one year, followed by 13 weeks half pay), extended paid sick leave under the Critical Illness Protocol does not apply and Ill Health Early Retirement Pension is granted after 2 years.

## An example of what happens when sick pay runs out

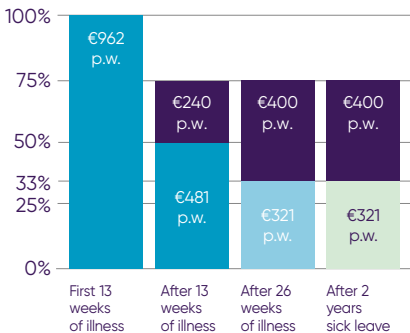
Staff recruited to the Public Service on or after 6th April 1995 pay class A PRSI. Their Superannuation Scheme pension is integrated to take account of the value of the Contributory State Pension in calculating the pension payable.

In the event of illness, they may typically claim State Illness Benefit.

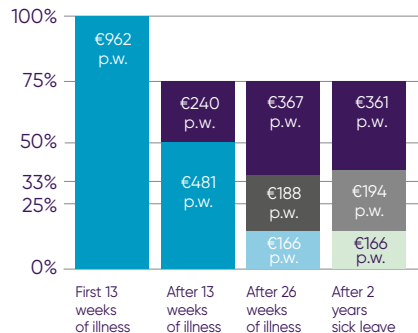


## Examples of how the Scheme works

### D Rate PRSI Example



### A Rate PRSI Example



# Additional protection for you and your family

The main purpose of the Salary Protection Scheme is to provide you and your family with financial support in the event that you fall ill and find yourself unable to work. The Scheme provides additional benefits in the form of:

## 1. Specified Illness Benefit\*

Should you suffer a serious illness (regardless of whether or not this illness keeps you out of work sufficiently long enough to involve a loss of salary) the reality is that you may face significant extra expenses. The Scheme recognises this fact by providing an additional benefit in the form of a once-off lump sum of 25% of your annual salary in the event that you suffer a 'Specified Illness'. The lump sum this benefit provides can be vital as extra cash is often needed to pay for medical bills, travel to and from hospital, pay for extra childcare, etc.

Irish Life has identified 36 Specified Illnesses (see listing opposite) for which they will pay out this benefit.

**\*Please note:** The Specified Illnesses marked \* were introduced at the **1st September 2012** review. The other Specified Illnesses were introduced from **1st September 2007**. You can only claim for Specified Illness Benefit in respect of an illness that was diagnosed after these dates. If, prior to joining the Scheme you have suffered from one of the Specified Illnesses, you will never be covered for that illness.

- Alzheimer's Disease
- Aorta graft surgery
- Aplastic Anaemia\*
- Bacterial Meningitis\*
- Benign brain tumour
- Benign spinal cord tumour\*
- Blindness
- Cancer (malignant)
- Cardiomyopathy\*
- Coma
- Coronary artery bypass grafts
- Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease
- Deafness
- Dementia\*
- Encephalitis\*
- Heart attack
- Heart surgery requiring median sternotomy\*
- Heart valve replacement or repair
- HIV infection
- Kidney failure
- Liver failure\*
- Loss of limbs
- Loss of speech
- Major organ transplant
- Motor Neurone Disease
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Paralysis of Limbs
- Parkinson's Disease (idiopathic)
- Primary Pulmonary Hypertension\*
- Progressive Supranuclear Palsy\*
- Pulmonary Artery Surgery\*
- Respiratory failure of specified severity\*
- Severe burns or 3rd-degree burns
- Stroke
- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus\*
- Traumatic head injury\*

## 2. Specified Illness Benefit – Partial Payments\*

Based on recent claims experience, Irish Life has identified a further 10 less severe, but still life altering conditions that they will make an additional separate partial payment on (see listing below). The benefit you would receive should you suffer a Specified Illness covered under the Partial Payment section is the lesser of: 25% of salary or €10,000.

**\*Please note:** The qualifying Specified Illnesses covered under the Partial Payment section were introduced on the **1st September 2012**. If, prior to joining the Scheme, you have suffered from one of the Specified Illnesses you will never be covered for that illness.

- Brain abscess drained *via* craniotomy
- Carcinoma in situ
- Carotid artery stenosis
- Cerebral arteriovenous malformation
- Coronary Angioplasty
- Ductal carcinoma in situ
- Less severe 3rd-degree burns
- Loss of one limb
- Low level prostate cancer with Gleason score between 2 & 6
- Surgical removal of one eye

**Important note:** There is only 1 Partial Payment claim per member per plan. Other terms and conditions apply.

**Terms and conditions apply.** Please refer to the policy document for full details, paying particular attention to the Appendix which contains the policy definition of each illness and its pre-existing conditions exclusion clauses.

The document can be downloaded at [www.cornmarket.ie/siptu](http://www.cornmarket.ie/siptu) or [www.cornmarket.ie/mlsa](http://www.cornmarket.ie/mlsa).

### 3. Life Cover

#### Death Benefit

Should you die, the issue of financial support may be even more pressing for your family. Mortgage payments, day-to-day living expenses, credit card bills, etc. will still have to be met by those you have left behind. The Scheme recognises this fact by providing an important extra benefit in the form of a Death Benefit (typically equivalent to twice your annual salary), which is paid to your estate should you die. As with your Disability Benefit, this Death Benefit is salary linked – so it changes each year in line with your salary. This benefit ceases on your 65th birthday, or when you retire (other than on grounds of ill health) or leave the Scheme, if earlier.

#### Terminal Illness Benefit

Irish Life will make an advance payment of 25% of the Death Benefit on diagnosis of a terminal illness with death expected within 12 months. Conditions attached to this are as follows:

- A life assured is diagnosed as having a terminal illness if a medical specialist certifies, and Irish Life accepts, that it is highly likely that the life assured will die from a worsening, incurable disease within 12 months
- This benefit will not apply to members over age 62.

#### Accidental Death Benefit

In the event of accidental death, a benefit of €15,000 is payable in addition to the normal Death Benefit of typically twice annual salary. 'Accidental Death' is defined as 'death as a direct result of a bodily injury arising from an external and accidental cause which leaves a visible bruise or wound'. The benefit is provided up until your 65th birthday, or when you retire (other than on grounds of ill health) or leave the Scheme, if earlier.

#### Children's Death Benefit

In the event that a member's child between the ages of 0 and 21 dies, a death benefit of €4,000 will be paid to the member.

### What happens at my retirement?

Our experience has been that the vast majority of members still need some element of Life Cover (Death Benefit) after they retire. For this reason, for a contribution of 0.05% of salary (built into the overall rate of contribution to the Scheme) members are entitled to join Commarket's Retired Members' Life Cover Plan on retirement, without having to undergo any medical underwriting, provided they are members of the Salary Protection Scheme at the date of their retirement. The Retired Members' Life Cover Plan provides for the payment of a tax-free lump sum to their estate on their death in return for a modest monthly contribution.

# Affordable for every member

## How much does the Scheme cost?

As membership is so vital, the Scheme is designed to be affordable for every member. It is remarkably good value because it's negotiated on a special 'group basis' for SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA. The contribution rate is currently set at 1.10% of gross salary and, for most members, is conveniently deducted from your salary by your employer. Please bear in mind that it is your responsibility to ensure that the correct deductions have, in fact, been made by your employer and that deductions are cancelled where appropriate.

## A helping hand from the Revenue

You are eligible for tax relief at your highest rate of tax on the part of your contribution going towards Disability Benefit (0.66% of the total 1.10%). This means for most members the cost of membership is between €6 and €9 a week after tax.

## Scheme cost

Disability Benefit	0.66%
Death Benefit	0.24%
Specified Illness Benefit	0.15%
Medical Immunity*	0.05%
<b>Total cost</b>	<b>1.10% of salary</b>

\* Entitles members to join Cornmarket's Retired Members' Life Cover Plan without medical underwriting. Terms & Conditions apply.

## Example

Income	Weekly contribution	'Real' weekly contribution after tax relief
€35,000	€7.38	<b>€6.49*</b>
€45,000	€9.49	<b>€7.21**</b>
€55,000	€11.59	<b>€8.81**</b>

\* Real contribution rate of 0.97%, paying income tax @ 20%.

\*\*Real contribution rate of 0.84%, paying income tax @ 40% as of January 2015.

**Please note:** This rate (based on the benefits in place at the 2012 review) is guaranteed until the next Scheme review on 1st September 2017.





# How to join the Scheme

## Who is eligible to join?

You may apply to join the Scheme if you are:

1. A member of the SIPTU Allied Health Professionals or of the MLSA (eligible occupations are: Radiographers, Medical Laboratory Scientists, Phlebotomists, Technical & Administrative grades within the Health Service, Radiation Therapists and Pathology Technicians) **and**
2. Under age 65 **and**
3. Working for 8 hours or more per week **and**
4. Actively at work\* **and**
5. Employed on a contract of employment by a recognised Health Service Employer **and either**
  - Employed on a permanent full-time basis **or**
  - Commenced a contract of definite duration (if you are in a temporary position your contract must be at least 12 months' duration) **or**
  - Working continuously for the past 12 months.

### \* Actively at work means that you:

- Are working your normal contracted number of hours
- Have not received medical advice to refrain from work
- Are not restricted from fully performing the normal duties associated with your occupation.

**Please note:** Members on paid or unpaid maternity leave are eligible to join the Scheme.

## Job/work sharers

Eligible job sharing/work sharing members of SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA who satisfy the eligibility conditions opposite may also apply to join the Scheme. The level of contribution and benefits which apply for them may differ from those relevant for permanent full-time members.

### Please note

You must remain a member of SIPTU Allied Health Professionals or of the MLSA to remain an eligible member of the Scheme. If you leave either Union you must inform Cornmarket in writing as you can no longer stay in the Scheme, and you will not be able to claim from it.

## How to Join?

The Salary Protection Scheme for SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA helps members maintain the standard of living they deserve. If you haven't already joined the Scheme, don't put it on the long finger.

Apply to join now,  
simply call us on  
**(01) 470 8054**

Cover begins as soon as Irish Life accepts you as a member of the Scheme.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## 1. When does my membership begin?

Your cover begins from the date Irish Life accepts your application to the Scheme. Members receive a formal acceptance letter confirming they have been included as members of the Salary Protection Scheme for SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA. In some cases medical evidence may be required before membership of the Scheme can be confirmed. This may involve providing further details over the telephone or attending a medical examination at Irish Life's expense.

### **Please note**

Any sick leave accrued before you became a member of the Scheme will not be used when calculating the Deferred Period.

## 2. When does my membership end?

### **Membership of the Scheme ends:**

- On your 65th birthday as far as the Disability Benefit, Death Benefit and Specified Illness Benefit are concerned (assuming you have not retired) **or**
- If you no longer fulfil the eligibility requirements as set out or if you leave either the SIPTU Allied Health Professionals or the MLSA union.

**Note:** you must remain a member of the SIPTU Allied Health Professionals or of the MLSA to remain an eligible member of the Scheme **or**

- If your contributions to the SIPTU Allied Health Professionals or the MLSA Scheme cease (please bear in mind that the responsibility to ensure that the correct contributions to the Scheme are paid, rests with you) **or**
- On your retirement (other than on the grounds of ill-health) **or**
- Death.

However, you do have the right to carry on an element of Death Benefit throughout your retirement if, at retirement, you decide to avail of Cornmarket's Retired Members' Life Cover Plan.

### **Notice period if you plan to retire**

It is important to remember that Cornmarket may not be notified by your employer when you retire. It is vital therefore that you notify Cornmarket at least 10 weeks in advance of your retirement date so that we can offer you the option to join Cornmarket's Retired Members' Life Cover Plan or to stop your contributions to the Scheme.

### 3. When does benefit payment under the Scheme begin?

Once Irish Life has accepted your claim, and you have completed the relevant Deferred Period, benefit payment under the Scheme will commence.

Please remember that it can take a number of weeks to process your claim. As soon as you become aware that, due to illness or injury, your income is likely to reduce to half pay or cease altogether, please let us know.

Ideally, we should be informed about **8-9 weeks** in advance to enable the Insurance Company to assess your claim and gather the relevant medical and employer information. As we understand that this may not always be possible, the Insurance Company may not be able to pay your benefit at the time that your income reduces or ceases. In such cases your benefit may, depending on the particular circumstances, be backdated to the date when your salary reduced to half pay or stopped altogether, where the claim is subsequently admitted.

### 4. For how long will I be paid benefit under the Scheme?

The Scheme will continue to pay benefit as long as your illness or injury prevents you from doing your normal job and you are not following any other occupation. Disability Benefit payments will stop when either:

- You recover **or**
- When Irish Life decides, based on medical evidence, that you are no longer prevented from carrying out your normal job because of illness or injury **or**
- You return to work **or**
- You die **or**
- You reach your 65th birthday, whichever is the earliest.

In certain cases benefits may be paid where the member returns to work but at a reduced level of earnings due to partial disability.

#### **Notice period if claim is ended**

In the case of claimants who have been in receipt of benefit for at least one year, where medical evidence indicates that a member is fit to return to work, Irish Life will give 3 months' notice before ending the payment of benefit. This only applies to those cases where a claim has been in continuous payment for 12 months or more.

## 5. How disabled do I have to be to qualify for benefit under the Scheme?

To qualify for benefit under the Scheme, Irish Life must be satisfied that you are totally unable to carry out the duties of your normal occupation because of illness or injury, and that you are not engaged in any other occupation for profit, reward or remuneration.

### **Disablement is defined as for the purpose of this Scheme:**

**(i)** Total disablement shall be deemed to exist where (a) the Insured Person is unable to carry out the duties pertaining to his/her normal occupation by reason of disablement arising from bodily injury sustained or sickness or illness contracted and (b) the Insured Person is not engaging on a full-time or part-time basis in any other occupation (whether or not for profit or reward or remuneration, including benefit in kind)

**and**

**(ii)** Partial disablement shall be deemed to exist where (a) following a period of total disablement as in Sub-Provision (i) above, which period is to be decided by the Company, an Insured Person is unable to carry out the duties pertaining to his normal occupation by reason of disablement arising from bodily injury sustained or sickness or illness contracted and (b) the Insured Person with the written consent of the Company re-engages in his/her normal occupation with loss of earnings as a result or engages in some other occupation on a full-time or part-time basis (whether or not for profit or reward or remuneration, including benefit in kind).

## 6. What if I take a career break, take unpaid leave or change my working hours?

If you intend taking a career break, take unpaid leave or change your hours (e.g. Job Sharing) please contact Cornmarket on **(01) 408 4195** to discuss the options available.

## 7. Are there any exclusions under the Scheme?

**The conditions excluded under the Scheme are those arising from wilfully self-inflicted injury or illness.**

This Policy does not insure against disablement of any Insured Person arising directly or indirectly from the breach of any law by the Insured Person, where the Insured Person is, as a result, sentenced by the Courts to a term of imprisonment of 12 months or more, whether suspended or not. Please bear in mind that in some cases individual members may be accepted into the Scheme subject to exclusions in respect of specific conditions.

Once an exclusion is applied, sick leave due to the excluded condition, including the calculation of the Deferred Period, cannot be included in relation to any aspect of the claim.

## **Certain exclusions apply to the Accidental Death Benefit.**

Exclusions apply to the Accidental Death Benefit where death is caused directly or indirectly by:

1. Taking part in a criminal act
2. The result of the person's deliberate act
3. The taking of drugs or alcohol
4. Taking part in aviation other than as a fare paying passenger, motor racing or motorcycle racing.

## **8. What benefits do members on a temporary contract get?**

A claim in respect of a member on a temporary contract is treated in the normal manner as outlined in questions 3 and 4 on page 19. If a member cannot work due to illness or injury and their contract expires before the expiry date of the Deferred Period (13 weeks in any 12 month period), their claim will be considered subject to the usual medical evidence requirement. For example, if a member suffers an illness with 3 months remaining on their contract, and remains disabled to the end of the Deferred Period, their claim will be considered in the normal manner.

## **9. What if I have unearned income?**

In general, investment and rental income will not be taken into account when making a claim under the Scheme. Benefit from any accident or sickness policy will however be taken into account, except once-off lump sum benefits paid under a critical/serious illness policy. Additionally other income received from other sources (for example another employment) shall be considered in the financial assessment of your claim.

**Please refer to the policy document for full details of how to claim from the Scheme.**

The document can be downloaded at:

**[www.cornmarket.ie/siptu](http://www.cornmarket.ie/siptu)**  
or **[www.cornmarket.ie/mlsa](http://www.cornmarket.ie/mlsa)**

# Claiming from the Scheme

## A step-by-step guide

Cornmarket's role is to help guide members through the claims process. We have considerable experience in this area and, on behalf of claimants, work closely with the relevant insurance companies to ensure that all legitimate claims are promptly paid. We are here to talk you through the process and to explain any additional documentation that you may be required to provide.

### 1. Contact Cornmarket

Cornmarket is not automatically notified of your absence from work through illness. This means as soon as you become aware that, due to illness or injury, your salary is likely to reduce to half pay or cease altogether, please let us know. Ideally, we should be informed about 8-9 weeks in advance to enable Irish Life to assess your claim and gather the relevant medical and employer information. As we understand that this may not always be possible, Irish Life may not be able to pay your benefit at the time your salary reduces or ceases. In such cases the benefit will be backdated where the claim is subsequently admitted.

You can contact us by calling the Claims Team on **(01) 408 4018**.

Or write to us at:

**SPS Claims Department,  
Cornmarket Group Financial Services Ltd.,  
Christchurch Square, Dublin 8.**

### 2. Your Claims Pack

Once you have informed us that you wish to make a claim, you will be issued with a claims pack containing all of the information that is required to enable Irish Life to assess your claim.

### 3. Processing your Claim

Upon receipt of your completed claim form, Irish Life will begin assessing your claim.

### 4. Medical Examination

Medical evidence will be assessed by Irish Life. In most cases the insurer will request that you attend an independent medical examination to confirm you are indeed unable to carry out your normal job because of your disability.

## 5. Additional Medical Evidence

In some cases, depending on the complexity, Irish Life may require additional medical evidence from doctors and/or specialists who have attended you. You may possibly be requested to attend a further medical examination (at Irish Life's expense).

## 6. Decision on your Claim

Once all the medical evidence and documentation has been received, the insurer will make a decision on your claim.

## 7. Your Benefit

Once a claim is being paid, payment of the benefit is made by Irish Life monthly in arrears. Benefit payments are subject to income tax.

Your benefit will continue to be paid for as long as you remain unfit to carry out your normal job because of illness or injury.

Benefit payments will stop when:

- You recover **or**
- When Irish Life decides, based on medical evidence, that you are no longer prevented from doing your normal job because of illness or injury **or**
- You return to work **or**
- You die **or**
- You reach your 65th birthday, whichever is the earliest.

In certain cases, benefit may be paid where you return to work at a reduced level of earnings due to partial disability. From time to time, Irish Life may require medical evidence confirming that you remain unfit to work.

**Please refer to the policy document for full details of how to claim from the Scheme.**

### **Important:**

#### **Short-term claims**

As a result of recent changes to Public Sector sick leave arrangements, there is a likelihood of an increase in short-term claims. With some short-term claims, the medical evidence required may not be as detailed as that required for a long-term claim.

#### **Late Notification of Claims**

It is not often possible to retrospectively assess the validity of a claim in cases where a significant period of time (approx. 3 months) has elapsed since your salary reduced or ceased. For this reason, it is vital that you register your claim promptly in line with the guidelines given (8–9 weeks before your salary reduces to half pay or ceases altogether). In the case of late notification of a claim, cases will be assessed on individual merit and the insurer reserves the right to decline to assess the claim.

## Salary Protection Scheme for SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA

This guide provides an outline only of the main benefits of the Salary Protection Scheme for SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA as of January 2015, and is issued subject to the provisions of the policy, and does not create or confer any legal rights.

The information contained herein is based upon our current understanding of the Public Sector sick leave arrangements and Revenue law and practice as of January 2015.

The Salary Protection Scheme for SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA is governed by the master Policy Document No. 21985 issued by Irish Life. Members of the Scheme may request a copy of the policy document from the Head Office of SIPTU Allied Health Professionals or of the MLSA or the Dublin office of Cornmarket Group Financial Services Ltd.

Cornmarket is committed to providing a high level of service and has a complaint handling procedure in place. Should you feel that you have not received a satisfactory level of service, please write in the first instance to Jane Horan, Assistant Manager, Compliance Department, Cornmarket Group Financial Services Ltd, Christchurch Square, Dublin 8.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your complaint through Cornmarket, you may also submit your complaint to the Financial Services Ombudsman's Bureau, 3rd Floor, Lincoln House, Lincoln Place, Dublin 2, or logon to [www.financialombudsman.ie](http://www.financialombudsman.ie).









Join the Scheme: Call us on **(01) 470 8054**  
or email **clientservices@cornmarket.ie**

For general Scheme queries: Call us on **(01) 408 4195**  
or email **spsadmin@cornmarket.ie**

To make a claim: Call us on **(01) 408 4018**  
or email **spsclaims@cornmarket.ie**

or visit **cornmarket.ie**

Cornmarket Group Financial Services Ltd. is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.  
A member of the Irish Life Group Ltd. which is part of the Great-West Lifeco Group of companies.  
Irish Life Assurance plc is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.  
Telephone calls may be recorded for quality control and training purposes.

9645 SIPTU Allied Health Professionals and members of the MLSA SPS V2 01-15