



Reaching Retirement Age



When you reach statutory pension age you do not have to retire immediately!

At 65 (correct in 2018) you reach retirement age. From this point if you continue working you no longer pay NI employee contributions (though your employer continues to make employer contributions) <https://www.gov.uk/tax-national-insurance-after-state-pension-age/stopping-paying-national-insurance>

What happens at State Pension age

At State Pension age:

- you stop paying Class 1 and Class 2 contributions, even if you're still working

If you choose to defer receiving your state pension the amount you will receive does increase. <https://www.gov.uk/deferring-state-pension>

How it works

You don't get your State Pension automatically - you have to claim it. You should get a letter no later than 2 months before you reach State Pension age, telling you what to do.

You can either [claim your State Pension](#) or delay (defer) claiming it.

If you want to defer, you don't have to do anything. Your pension will automatically be deferred until you claim it.

Deferring your State Pension could increase the payments you get when you decide to claim it. Any extra payments you get from deferring could be [taxed](#).

If you contribute to a workplace pension you can continue paying into this after 65. There is also the option to additional contributions at any time, so you could for instance pay the equivalent of your NI contributions into your workplace pension, either as a fixed voluntary amount or as an additional percentage. If you pay income tax the government automatically adds tax relief to your contribution if you are under 75.