

FAMILY PENSION

A family pension may be occasioned due to the in-service death of government servant or due to death of a pensioner. The term family for the purpose of payment of gratuity / pension shall include the following relations of the government servant in terms of Rule 4.7 read with Rule 4.10 of the Punjab Civil Service Pension Rules.

- a) Wife or Wives in case of male government servant;
- b) Husband in case of female government servant;
- c) Children of the government servant;
- d) Widow or widows and children of a deceased son of the government servant;

2. The grant of family pension (gratuity and pension) is regulated under Rules 4.6, 4.7 and 4.10 *ibid*. As further provided under Rule 4.6 (4) *ibid*, if the beneficiary of family pension is the widow or widows / widower of the deceased government servant / pensioner, the family pension irrespective of the date of death of the government servant shall be paid to the widow (s) for life or until remarriage. In the event of death of a widow, her family pension shall be divided equally among the surviving sons not above 24 years and unmarried daughter of the deceased government servant / pensioner from the deceased widow.

3. In the event of death before retirement pension for the purpose shall be calculated under Rule 4.6 (5) *ibid*, as if the government servant retired on invalid pension on the date of his death, but it shall be admissible from the day following the death of the government servant. Further if the government servant leaves no family the amount of gratuity shall be payable to the surviving relatives detailed in clause (d) of Rule 4.8 *ibid*. The share / extent of gratuity payable to the family of a deceased government servant is also regulated under this rule.

4. With the liberalization of Pension Rules, the grant of family pension has been extended to the next of kins of a deceased government servant/pensioner in order of eligibility and succession as prescribed in the Pension Rules. In order to delineate the admissibility of family pension to the successor of a deceased government servant / pensioner in the order as prescribed in the pension rules, **a family pension tree** has been

drawn, which describes this order graphically. The admissibility of family pension depicted in the diagram is illustrative only, the final admissibility being determined by the Pension Sanctioning Authority (PSA) in terms of the pension rules on case to case basis.

5. Family Pension to minor children of the deceased government servant is regulated under the provision of note 2 below Rule 4.11 of the Punjab Civil Service Pension Rules, whereby the Sanctioning Authority may allow the payment of family pension and / or shares of gratuity admissible to minor children of a deceased government servant to their mother. In case the mother is not alive or was judicially separated from the government servant in his life time the sanctioning authority may nominate any suitable person to be the guardian of such minor children for the purpose of receiving payment of pension and share of gratuity on their behalf. In case the deceased government servant was a female, the sanctioning authority under similar circumstances allow the payment of pension and / or shares of gratuity of minor children of the deceased to their father, or if the father be not alive to such guardian as may be appointed by the sanctioning authority.

6. It is added that for the determination of family pension, there is no requirement of a succession certificate from court of law and the family pension shall be payable as per the family defined in Punjab Civil Service Pension Rules.

7. **Calculation of Family Pension / Pension:-**

In order to allow the eligible family pension / pensioner to ascertain the pension, a simple calculation sheet is added. It depicts three separate scenarios for the purpose. The latest commutation table applicable with effect from October 2001 is also annexed for purpose of facility.

8. **Application for Family Pension:-**

As per the new procedure for the processing and disbursement of pension through Direct Credit System / Pension Roll, the grant of family pension (i) in case of in service death of a government servant and (ii) death of a pensioner is prescribed under Section B of the said procedure. It involves a two step action by the family member (s) entitled to family pension, and the Pension Sanctioning Authority. Such cases shall be submitted on Forms D-I or D-II respectively, as the case may be.

9. **Relief Package to the family of a Civil Servant who dies while in service:-**

A detailed updated statement showing various financial benefits admissible to the family of a deceased government servant who dies while in service is added at the end of this chapter for information and facilitation of the bereaved family.