

#### 18 January 2024

#### INDUSTRY CIRCULAR ON THE APPLICATION OF FIXED EXPENSE DEDUCTION RATIOS (FEDRs) FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMPUTING CPF CONTRIBUTIONS AND WORK INJURY COMPENSATION (WIC) FOR PLATFORM WORKERS (PWs)

#### <u>Objective</u>

1. This circular is to inform the industry of the application of FEDRs for the purpose of computing CPF contributions and WIC for PWs<sup>1</sup>, which will be implemented in the second half of 2024. In summary,

#### For private hire car and taxi drivers

a. The FEDR set at 60% for tax purposes will be used to compute CPF contributions and WIC for all ride-hail income that is considered platform work.

#### For delivery riders

b. The FEDRs of 20%, 35% and 60% will be used to compute CPF contributions and WIC for PWs who are using non-motorised transport, 2-wheel motorised transport and 4-wheel motorised transport respectively.

### Background

2. In November 2022, the Government accepted the <u>recommendations</u> of the Advisory Committee on PWs ("Advisory Committee") to strengthen protections for PWs. The recommendations, which will be implemented in the second half of 2024, include recommendations for PWs to boost their CPF savings for housing and retirement adequacy, and to ensure adequate financial protection for PWs in case of work injury.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This applies to PWs who provide point-to-point transport and delivery services.

- 3. The recommendations include that the PW's total earnings less expenses (net earnings) should be used to compute their CPF contributions, and to determine the PW's income loss compensation and lump sum compensation for permanent incapacity or death, for purposes of WIC. This Circular sets out how the PWs' net income will be determined using the FEDRs for the purpose of computing CPF contributions and WIC.
- 4. The application of FEDRs for computing CPF contributions and WIC for PWs will streamline processes for Platform Operators (POs) while providing convenience for PWs.

## FEDRs to apply based on PWs' mode of transport

5. With reference to the FEDRs that were developed by IRAS for tax purposes, the following FEDRs will be used to compute the CPF contributions and WIC for PWs based on their mode of transport:

Mode of Transport	FEDRs for CPF and WIC
Cars, Vans, Lorries, Trucks	60%
Motorcycles, Power-assisted Bicycles,	35%
Motorised Personal Mobility Devices	
Bicycles, Walkers (including use of	20%
public transport)	

## Applying the FEDRs for CPF and WIC for all PWs

- 6. The FEDRs will apply for CPF and WIC purposes for all PWs, even if they do not opt in to boost their CPF savings<sup>2</sup> or are not eligible to use FEDRs for tax purposes.
- 7. For purposes of WIC, compensation will be based on the PW's total earnings from the platform sector in which injury was sustained, referencing earnings up to 90 calendar days before the date of accident. POs will provide information on net earnings (i.e. gross earnings minus the FEDR) to the WIC insurer, who will compute the compensation.

# No adjustment will be made based on PWs' declared expenses

8. The computation of CPF contributions and WIC using FEDRs will not be adjusted even if PWs declare a different expense ratio from the FEDRs for tax purposes. The FEDRs are expected to cover the expenses for a vast majority of workers. Applying the FEDR also reduces the administrative hassle for PWs to submit receipts to CPFB monthly, which in turn streamlines the process for both PWs and POs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> POs will be required to collect PWs' CPF contributions, including MediSave contributions for PWs who do not opt in. FEDR will be used to compute the MediSave contribution amount.

- 9. The application of FEDR for CPF contributions and WIC differs from FEDR for tax purposes in the following ways:
  - a. While PWs may choose to declare the actual amount of allowable expenses for tax purposes, the computation of CPF contribution and WIC will be based on the FEDRs at para 5.
  - b. The FEDRs will apply for CPF contribution and WIC for PWs of all incomes and across all modes of transport. For tax purposes, the 60% FEDR applies to private hire car and taxi drivers, while the FEDRs for delivery riders only apply to those who earn up to \$50,000 annually from delivery work and exclude delivery riders who use private cars, trucks and lorries for delivery work.
  - c. For more information on the application of FEDRs for tax purposes, please refer to <u>IRAS' website</u>.

Illustration on how FEDR will apply for CPF contributions

- CPF contribution rates vary with age and will be phased in progressively from 2H 2024 to 2029 (refer to <u>Annex A</u>).
- PW A is 25 years old in Jan 2025.
- PW A works as a food delivery rider (uses a motorcycle).
- The CPF contribution for PW A in the first year of implementation is as follows:

Gross earnings (monthly)	FEDR	Net earnings (monthly)	Total contribution <sup>3</sup> (monthly)	PW's share of CPF contribution⁴ (monthly)	PO's share of CPF contribution (monthly)
\$1,800	35%	(1-0.35) * \$1,800 = \$1,170	\$1,170 * 14% = \$163.80 = \$164 (rounded off to nearest dollar)	\$1,170 * 10.5% = \$122.85 = \$122 (rounded down to nearest dollar)	\$164 - \$122 = \$42

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Total contribution shall be rounded off to the nearest dollar. This means that an amount of less than 50 cents should be rounded down to the nearest dollar, while an amount of 50 cents and above should be rounded up to the nearest dollar

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The PW's share of CPF contributions should be rounded down to nearest dollar

## Illustration on how FEDR will apply for WIC

PW B, a ride-hail car driver, sustained a work injury on 16 July.
PW B's gross earnings from all ride-hail POs he had worked for in the past 90 days from 15 July (Day 1) was \$12,000.



90-day lookback period PW B's total earnings from all ride-hail POs: **\$12,000** 

- The FEDR of 60% for cars will be applied to PW B's gross earnings (\$12,000) to derive the net earnings.
- The net earnings will be used to calculate the average daily earnings over the past 90 days before the accident (i.e. net earnings ÷ 90 days).



- PW B was issued hospitalisation leave for 14 days to recuperate.
- PW B would be eligible for income loss compensation based on the average daily earnings and number of hospitalisation leave days.



- \* Compensation limits for hospitalisation leave:
  - Full average daily earnings for up to 60 days,
  - 2/3 average daily earnings from 61st day to 1 year of accident.

### Contact Information for Clarifications

- 10. For clarifications, please contact the following representatives:
  - a. FEDR application for CPF: Brandon Nui (<u>brandon\_nui@cpf.gov.sg</u>); Ng Lin Kai (<u>Ng\_Lin\_Kai@mom.gov.sg</u>)
  - b. FEDR application for WIC: Leon Poh (leon poh@mom.gov.sg)



# Annex A - CPF contribution rate schedule for PWs

PO CPF Contribution Rates (for PWs who earned more than \$50 net earnings in the month)					
PW Age Bands	60 and below	Above 60 - 65	Above 65 - 70	Above 70	
Current	0%	0%	0%	0%	
2H 2024	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	
Jan 2026	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%	
Jan 2027	10.5%	10.5%	9.0%	7.5%	
Jan 2028	14.0%	13.0%	9.0%	7.5%	
Jan 2029	17.0%	13.0%	9.0%	7.5%	

PW CPF Contribution Rates (for PWs who earned more than \$750 net earnings in the month)							
PW Age Bands	35 & below	Above 35 - 45	Above 45 - 50	Above 50 - 60	Above 60 - 65	Above 65 - 70	Above 70
Current	8.0%	9.0%	10.0%	10.5%	10.5%	10.5%	10.5%
2H 2024	10.5%	11.5%	12.5%	13.0%	10.5%	10.5%	9.0%
Jan 2026	13.0%	14.0%	15.0%	15.5%	12.5%	9.5%	5.5%
Jan 2027	15.5%	16.5%	17.5%	18.0%	13.0%	7.5%	5.0%
Jan 2028	18.0%	19.0%	20.0%	20.0%	13.0%	7.5%	5.0%
Jan 2029	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	13.0%	7.5%	5.0%

<u>Note</u>: Actual schedule may be subject to change, including if major economic disruption warrants a longer timeline. Actual schedule for PWs age 55-70 will also depend on progress of increases to CPF contributions for senior workers. PWs who earn above \$500 but below \$750 will contribute at a reduced rate.



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