A guide to your journey with the USS Investment Builder

Your journey with the USS Investment Builder starts here

Quick reference guide
Understanding your journey with the USS Investment Builder

Take a look at the journey below to see what you should consider to make the most of the USS Investment Builder.

Stage 1
Join USS
You automatically join the USS Retirement Income Builder, providing you with security in your retirement planning, and gain access to the USS Investment Builder to enhance your retirement savings.

Stage 2
Time to save
This might apply to you if:
• you’ve thought about saving extra for retirement, or are in a position to save more;
• you want to take advantage of the match.

What to think about:
Saving a little bit more each month can increase the amount of money you have when you retire by more than you might expect — the earlier you start, the more it can grow.

Take action:
Visit www.uss.co.uk/myuss to add additional contributions to the USS Investment Builder.

Stage 3
Get the most from your money
This might apply to you if:
• you’d like to think about how your pension contributions are invested;
• your circumstances have recently changed (at work or at home).

What to think about:
You can choose how your contributions are invested to best meet your needs. If you don’t want to make any investment decisions, there’s an option that manages your investments for you.

Take action:
Visit www.uss.co.uk/myuss to check how your pension contributions are being invested and review the Investment Guide to learn about your investment options.

Stage 4
Choose how to take your money
This might apply to you if:
• you have ten years or less until you plan to retire.

What to think about:
Now is a good time to consider how you want to take your savings at retirement and what type of investments will best support your plans.

Take action:
Review the ways you can take your contributions and choose the investments that support your plans at www.uss.co.uk.

Stage 5
Getting ready for retirement
This might apply to you if:
• you have five years or less until your planned retirement.

What to think about:
Review all of your investments and pensions (not just with USS) and look into what happens when you retire so you are ready to decide how to take your retirement income when the time comes.

Take action:
Find out more about what happens when you retire at www.uss.co.uk.

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1. How does USS work?
From 1 October 2016, there are two sections to USS.

The USS Retirement Income Builder
- All members earn benefits in this section;
- Benefits earned for salary up to the salary threshold;
- It provides security for you and your dependants;
- Your benefits at retirement are based on a formula that takes account of your salary each year, and takes account of inflation.

The USS Investment Builder
- An optional section you can join in addition to the USS Retirement Income Builder (if you earn over the salary threshold, you’ll join automatically);
- It provides flexibility so you can enhance your retirement benefits, with an optional match from your employer.
- Your benefits at retirement are based on:
  - The contributions made by you and any employer contributions to the USS Investment Builder;
  - The performance of the funds that your contributions are invested in (after any charges have been deducted).

2. How does the USS Investment Builder work?
1. You, or you and your employer can contribute to the USS Investment Builder
2. These contributions are invested (you have different options to suit your needs)
3. At retirement, you can take your money out of the USS Investment Builder

You can view your options in the USS Investment Builder, make the right choices for you and find out more information via www.uss.co.uk/myuss.

3. Pay more, get more with the match
The match is available to all members
You contribute an additional 1% or more of your salary to the USS Investment Builder
Your employer also contributes an additional 1% of your salary to the USS Investment Builder
You can choose to pay more, but your employer will only match the first 1%

If you earn over the salary threshold, both you and your employer will automatically make normal contributions to the USS Investment Builder in respect of your pay above the salary threshold each year. The match is available in addition to these.
So, if you contribute an additional 1% of your full pay (or more) above your normal contributions, you’ll receive an additional 1% from your employer. Please note, you must choose to take the match online at My USS, via www.uss.co.uk/myuss in order to receive the 1% employer contribution.

Why should I save more?
Whether you’ve just started your career or have been working for many years, it’s important to think about how you are going to pay for things when you retire. You need to make sure you’ve saved enough money to support your retirement plans.

See how much you might receive in retirement with the helpful tools in the member area on www.uss.co.uk.

The earlier you start, the better off you’ll be

This publication is for general guidance only. It is not a legal document and does not explain all situations or eventualities. USS is governed by a trust deed and rules and if there is any difference between this publication and the trust deed and rules the latter prevail. Every effort has been made to present accurate information at the date of publication and members are advised to check with their employer’s pension contact for latest information regarding the scheme, and any changes that may have occurred to its rules and benefits.
My USS –
it’s about your future

Go to www.uss.co.uk