

'My USS' Portal Annual Allowance (AA) calculator
Guidance steps on using the tools available on the portal

Log onto your My USS record, select 'Calculators and Tools' from the navigation pane on the left hand side and then 'Contributions and Tax Calculator'.

You will need to ensure the highlighted parts as shown above are completed. Your annual salary and Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVCs) should be pre-populated.

Once you have answered the questions click on **calculate** to move to the next step.

[Home](#) > [My summary](#) > [Calculators and tools](#) > Contributions & Tax Calculator

My USS

- My summary
- Retirement Income Builder
- Investment Builder +
- Calculators and tools -
 - Benefit Calculator
 - Contributions & Tax Calculator**
- My details +
- My documents
- Make an enquiry
- Important information

Contributions & Tax Calculator

Estimate the monthly cost of being a member by inputting your annual salary, and any extra contributions you pay, below. You'll see how much you'll save in tax and National Insurance each month too.

Estimate how much you'll pay

Annual salary (£) [What's this?](#)
Please provide a valid salary between £1 and £1m, rounding up to no decimal places

Are your USS contributions paid via salary sacrifice? [What's this?](#)

Yes No

Additional monthly contributions to the Investment Builder [What's this?](#)

£ %

Additional monthly contributions (%)

Do you pay Scottish Income Tax? [What's this?](#)

Yes No

Calculate [Reset](#)

Your results will confirm the contributions you will pay and the tax saving on your contributions (you can choose to view this information monthly or annually).

Your results

The results below show how much you'll pay, and the tax saving on your contributions.

Monthly

Annually

What you'll pay

- Your gross contribution is **£4,970**
- Which includes your regular contributions of **£4,270** and an additional contribution to the Investment Builder of **£700**
- Less your tax saving of **£1,988**
- And less your National Insurance saving of **£96**
- Your rate of tax and NI savings will be **42%**

Actual cost to you

£2,886

In addition to your contribution, your employer will also contribute **£10,150 per year**

You can then choose to use the Annual Allowance calculator by selecting 'Start' as per below:

Tax modelling section

The Annual Allowance (AA) is the maximum amount of pension savings you can build up each year before you need to pay a tax charge. Choose Start below to use the calculator to find out whether the Annual Allowance could affect you. Or, visit our [pension tax page](#) to find out more.

Start

You will need to answer the questions highlighted below. If you wish to pay some of your severance payment into the Investment Builder, you should include it in the last box.

Once the questions have all been completed, click on 'Calculate'.

Modelling against the Annual Allowance

The standard Annual Allowance (AA) is currently £60,000 per tax year. If you build pension savings worth more than your AA you may incur a tax charge. Answer the three questions below and select Calculate to get an estimate of how much of your AA that your USS pension savings will use over the current tax year.

Have you triggered the Money Purchase Annual Allowance (MPAA)? [What's this?](#)

You may have triggered the MPAA if you have previously *flexibly accessed* a defined contribution pension pot (such as taking an UFPLS payment from the Investment Builder, or as flexi-access drawdown from another pension scheme). You will have been told this by the administrator of the scheme when you accessed your benefits.

Yes No

What additional taxable income do you expect to have this tax year? (£) [What's this?](#)

0

How much in total are you planning to contribute as lump sums over the rest of this tax year? (£)
[What's this?](#)

0

Calculate

[Reset](#)

 [Download PDF](#)

A further set of results will be provided that estimate the value of your pension savings with USS and the amount of assumed Annual Allowance used. It will also detail the amount of estimated Annual Allowance left on which tax relief is available.

You can download your results to a pdf document, by clicking the 'Download PDF'.



Your results

See below for an estimate of the value of your USS pension savings during the current tax year and how much of the Annual Allowance (AA) you are estimated to use. Please note these results have been calculated using your USS pension savings and, where relevant, any other taxable income you have input. But any pension savings outside USS over 2024/2025 will also count towards your Annual Allowance.

Your assumed Annual Allowance for 2024/25 [What's this?](#)

£60,000

Estimated value of your pension savings with USS [What's this?](#)

This is the estimated value of your USS benefits you will build up during the 2024/25 tax year.

£18,433

Amount of assumed Annual Allowance used by your pension savings with USS

Your estimated used AA

£18,433

You are estimated to have **£41,567** of your Annual Allowance (**£60,000**) left on which tax relief is available.

You can find more information about Annual Allowance by following Next steps below.



Select 'Next steps' as highlighted below, which will navigate you to a general Annual Allowance information page. This section allows you to get more information on the situation that applies to you.

Annual Allowance (AA) Modeller - next steps

Now you have your estimated AA results, for some possible actions to think about, visit the page below and go to the section that applies to you.

You, or your financial adviser, may also wish to use the [Annual Allowance worksheet](#) to assist you in any decisions.

[Next steps](#)

You can find information here on the Annual Allowance, Tapered Annual Allowance and Money Purchase Annual Allowance (MPAA). Please note that if you have previously accessed some pension benefits, the MPAA may apply to you.

My USS

- [My summary](#)
- [Retirement Income Builder](#)
- [Investment Builder +](#)
- [Calculators and tools -](#)
 - [Benefit Calculator](#)
 - [Contributions & Tax Calculator](#)
- [My details +](#)
- [My documents](#)
- [Make an enquiry](#)
- [Important information](#)

Modelling against Annual Allowance (AA) - Next steps

Now you have your estimated AA results, for some possible actions to think about, go to the section below that applies to you.

You can go back to the [Contributions & Tax Calculator](#).

Choose the statement that most applies to you.	
You're estimated to be within the Annual Allowance	▼
You're estimated to be within the Annual Allowance for the year, but you're close to the MPAA - ideas to help you manage your AA usage	▼
You're estimated to exceed the Annual Allowance - ideas to help you manage your AA usage	▼
You're estimated to exceed the Money Purchase Annual Allowance	▼

Further information about Annual Allowances

Watch our short [video for an overview of pension tax](#) in under two minutes

You, or your financial adviser, may also wish to use the [Annual Allowance worksheet](#) to assist you in any decisions.

Annual Allowance	▼
A Tapered Annual Allowance	▼
Money Purchase Annual Allowance	▼

Need more support?

Paying an AA tax charge

If you've exceeded the AA, you may be able to use your pension savings to cover the charge with [Scheme Pays](#).

You can find more information about how to calculate your AA and how to pay a AA tax charge on [the HMRC website](#).

If you have a tax charge, you'll need to let HMRC know on your self-assessment tax return.

Guidance webinars

As a USS member, you have access to [free webinars](#) that will help you make the decisions that are right for you now and in the future. The *Focus on Pension Tax webinar* includes a brief look at how your benefits build up in USS, pension tax – covering Annual Allowance, Tapered Annual Allowance, MPAA and Lifetime Allowance, managing tax – including USS specific tax mitigation options like Enhanced Opt Out and Voluntary Salary Cap.

Advice

If you want to seek guidance or take financial advice on the options available to you, visit our [guidance and financial advice page](#). You'll find a range of resources to support your planning and you can also find information on how to access a financial adviser.