

# SOCIAL SECURITY (BENEFITS) (AGE PENSIONS AND GRANTS) REGULATIONS, 2013.

# STATUTORYINSTRUMENT

2013, No. 16

[ Published in the Official Gazette Vol. XXXIII No. 25 dated 9th May, 2013. ]

Printed at the Government Printing Office, Antigua and Barbuda, by Ralph George, Government Printer
— by Authority, 2013.

[ Price \$ 2.60 ]

# SOCIAL SECURITY (BENEFITS) (AGE PENSIONS AND GRANTS) REGULATIONS, 2013.

### ARRANGEMENT

# Regulation

- 1. Short title
- 2. Interpretation
- 3. Entitlement
- 4. Type of age benefit
- Age pension
- 6. Rate of age pension
- 7. Age grant
- Rate of age grant
- 9. Date on which pension becomes payable
- 10. Revocation
- 11. Commencement

#### ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

#### SOCIAL SECURITY (BENEFITS) (AGEPENSIONS AND GRANTS) REGULATIONS 2013.

#### 2013, No. 16

SOCIAL SECURITY (BENEFITS) (AGE PENSIONS AND GRANTS) REGULATIONS made by the Minister in exercise of the powers contained in section 29, 30 and 31 of the Social Security Act, Cap. 408.

#### 1. Short title

These Regulations may be cited as the Social Security (Benefits) (Age Pensions and Grants) Regulations, 2013.

#### 2. Interpretation

In these regulations -

"annual insurable earnings" in any contribution year for the purpose of computing average earnings means the total insurable earnings in those weeks for which contributions are paid, increased in the proportion that 52 bears to the number of weekly contributions paid in that year;

"average earnings" for the purpose of computing age benefits means the average annual insurable earnings of the best five contribution years in the last ten contribution years immediately preceding the year in which a person attains the age of sixty years; but where an insured person had contributed for less than five contribution years, "average earnings" means the average annual insurable earnings over the number of contribution years being less than five;

"contribution year" means any calendar year in which an insured person pays thirteen or more weekly contributions or the monthly equivalent thereof.

#### 3. Entitlement

Subject to the provisions of these regulations age benefit shall be paid in respect of any insured person who attains the age of 60 years.

#### 4. Type of age benefit

Age benefit shall consist of -

- (a) age pension; or
- (b) age grant

#### 5. Age Pension

Subject to regulation 6, a person who has attained 60 years of age shall be entitled to -

- (a) a full life age pension if he has paid not less than 500 weekly contributions or the monthly equivalent thereof;
- (b) a reduced age pension if he has not paid 500 contributions but has paid more than 349 weekly contributions or the monthly equivalent thereof.

#### 6. Rate of age Pension

- (1) The pension payable in respect of a person entitled under regulation 5(a) shall be paid at an annual rate of twenty five percentum of the average earnings increased by one percentum of such average earnings in respect of each complete 50 weekly contributions or the monthly equivalent thereof in excess of 500 weekly contributions; but in no case shall the annual rate of pension exceed fifty percentum of the annual earnings and the weekly rate shall not be less than \$350.00.
- (2) The pension payable in respect of a person entitled under regulation 5(b) shall be that paid under regulation 5(a) divided by 500 and multiplied by the number of contributions being not less than 350, but in no case shall the monthly rate be less than \$350.00.

#### 7. Age grant

A person who does not qualify for an age pension under regulation 5 shall be entitled to an age grant if –

- (a) he has attained the age of 60 years; and
- (b) he has paid not less than 52 weeks contribution or monthly equivalent thereof.

#### 8. Rate of age grant

The rate of age grant payable in respect of a person entitled under regulation 7 shall be either -

- (a) one thousand two hundred dollars; or
- (b) seventy-five percentum of the total contribution paid in respect of that person, which ever amount is the greater.

### 9. Date on which pension becomes payable

All pension payable to qualified applicants shall only be paid from the year in which the application was submitted.

# 10. Revocation

The following Regulations are hereby revoked-

- (a) The Social Security (Age, Pensions and Grants) Regulations, 1993 No. 41 of 1993;
   The Social Security Regulations (Age, Pensions and Grants) Regulations, 2000 No. 15 of 2000.
- (c) The Social Security (Age, Pension and Grants) Regulations, 2005 No. 16 of 2005.

# 11. Commencement

These Regulations shall come into force on the 1st day of May, 2013.

Made this 30th day of April, 2013

**Hon. Harold Lovell** *Minister responsible for Social Security*