

Discounting of the pension

Conditions

Pursuant to § 13 para. 3 Contergan Foundation Act (Conterganstiftungsgesetz, ContStifG) in connection with § 10 of the statutes of the Contergan Foundation, the Contergan pension can be (partly) paid out in lump sums at a discounted rate if **this should be in the best interest of the handicapped person, i.e. in the best interest of the beneficiary.**

Definition

With discounting, your claims to future monthly pension payments are lumped together and you can call them up in full or in part for a period of up to five years. The claim to continued payment of the pension expires (in part) for the time period covered by the discounting at the end of the month following the month in which the first lump sum was paid.

The mandatory adjustment of the Contergan pension according to the percentage change to public pensions remains unaffected. This adjustment is done concurrently with the adjustment of the public pensions. In past years, this has occurred on 1 July.

Application process

Please fill out the application form completely and sign it. Please state what amount you would like discounted and over what period. Submit the application before carrying out your project. Please consider that binding contracts are concluded at your own responsibility until the notice of approval is delivered.

Depending on the specific context for the discounting, the following documents may have to be submitted to justify the claimed expenses:

- Cost breakdown, quote, non-binding preliminary agreement or purchase offer
- Confirmation by the lender of the amount and purpose of the loan, information on the amount of remaining debt and due date calculation by the lender

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to pay interest?

Yes. Lump sum payment of the pension payment requires the payment of interest (discounting). The current interest rate is 2.63 % (as of October 2025). The interest rate always applies from 1 October of one year to 30 September of the following year. It corresponds to the yield published by the German Central Bank for specific listed federal securities.

Can I undo the discounting?

Yes. In exceptional cases, the discounting can be undone for a good reason; the outstanding discounted amount must be repaid. A good reason may be:

- Divorce
- Acquisition of other new property
- Dissolution of the settlement amount to achieve full pension payments

What do I need to do to undo the discounting?

You need a signed application. You do not need to fill out a form. State the reason for terminating the discounting early and provide evidence.

What are the legal consequences of undoing the discounting?

If your application to undo the discounting is accepted, the Contergan Foundation will revoke the original notice approving the discounting. The lump sum payments are ended and the repayment amount is defined for a specific due date. Please state a due date on which the discounting should be undone.

How is the amount to be repaid to the Contergan Foundation calculated?

We calculate how high the discounted amount would have been in the event of discounting till the due date. The amounts retained from the Contergan pension due to the discounting to date are deducted. This amount is to be repaid to the Contergan Foundation by the due date.

Note: In the month following the repayment of the settlement amount, you will again receive your Contergan pension in the full amount, provided that there is no other active discounting.

What happens if I die?

Should you pass during the settlement period, pursuant to § 13 para. 6 clause 2 ContStifG in connection with § 10 para. 3 c of the statutes, the Foundation has no right to demand repayment.

Who can advise me?

To obtain advice tailored to your needs on this subject, you can turn to our Service staff, who are happy to help.

Make an appointment:

E-mail: leistung@contergan.bund.de

Telephone: +49 221 3673 3673