

Where to turn to if you have any questions.

Do you have questions about the differences between the two insurance products or do you need advice on which model would be more favourable for you? Then contact the VBL using the contact details provided.

You can also address general questions about pension provision in Germany and occupational pension to us.

Your employer will inform you whether you fulfil the collective agreement requirements regarding the possibility of choice.

VBL. The pensions scheme for the public sector.

VBL is the largest occupational pension fund for the public sector in Germany. In addition to the supplementary pension you are entitled to, under the collective agreement with the VBL, you have the option of topping up your occupational pension with your own contributions. With VBLextra we offer an attractive product for additional funded pension provision.

You can find information about your occupational pension scheme on our website www.vbl.de or as brochures: VBLspezial04a (West) and VBLspezial05a (East) for researchers and scientists in academia.



FindYourPension

Are you employed as a researcher in the public sector? The website www.findyourpension.eu gives you an overview of your pension entitlements in the different pension systems in various countries.

Contacting the VBL.

Our insured persons can reach us at

📞 **0721 93 98 93 1**
VBLklassik

📞 **0721 93 98 93 5**
VBLextra

Telephone hours:
Monday, Thursday from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

✉ **kundenservice@vbl.de**

📞 **0721 155-1355**

@ **www.vbl.de**

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Information for researchers and scientists.

With a temporary job but the best possible insurance.



Your insurance with the VBL.

As a public sector employee, you have a collectively agreed entitlement to an occupational pension.

On behalf of the Federal states (Bundesländer), with the exception of Saarland and the Hanseatic City of Hamburg, this supplementary pension scheme is organised and provided by the VBL. Your employer will therefore register your insurance with the VBL.

The benefits of the VBL insurance are:

- Old-age pension
- Pension in the event of reduced earning capacity
- Survivors' pension for spouses, registered partners, orphans or half-orphans

You have the choice.

If you are not yet a member of the VBL or another supplementary pension scheme of the public sector, you can choose between two insurance types, namely VBLklassik and VBLextra for Researchers. This is possible when you have a temporary work contract.

The two insurance types differ in the following respect:

- Conditions to be eligible for later benefits.
- Which amount of pension you'll receive.
- How the benefits are financed.
- Obligation to pay a share towards the insurance.
- Transfer possibility of the capital value of the insurance

Comparison of the two insurance options*.



- In principle, you require 5 years of active insurance to receive pension benefits.
- The amount of benefits depends on your income, age and the duration of your insurance.
- Periods of parental leave and reduced earning capacity can also be taken into account when calculating the pension (called social components).
- In the western Federal states, the benefits are financed on a pay-as-you-go scheme. The employer pays a higher share than the employees.
- In the eastern Federal states, the insured employees pay an own share towards the funded contributions. They acquire an immediate entitlement from these contributions paid.
- A transfer of the VBLklassik entitlement is only possible when new employer is an institution of the European Union.



(pursuant to § 28 VBL statutes)

- No minimum contribution period is required, meaning the first contribution leads to a later pension entitlement.
- The amount of benefits depends on your income, age and the duration of your insurance.
- The VBLextra is fully funded. Thus, the capital yields obtained will influence the amount of the benefits. In the current low-interest period, the guaranteed benefits are lower than in the VBLklassik insurance. Actual returns increase the benefits.
- In the western Federal states only employers pay the insurance contributions.
- In the eastern Federal states, the insured employees pay a share of 2 percent in contributions.
- The capital value of the pension entitlement can be transferred to another occupational pension fund if certain requirements are fulfilled.

Important: If you decide on insurance with VBLextra, you have to submit an application to your employer within **two months** after commencement of your job.

* For scientists in accordance with § 28 of the VBL statutes who can be insured in VBLklassik or VBLextra.