



SENTINEL
retirement fund

PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP

Brochure - May 2025

WHAT IS PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP?

Paid-Up Membership ensures that members who leave their employer before retirement maintain their retirement savings within the Sentinel Retirement Fund. This flexibility allows members to preserve their savings while exploring future financial strategies.

Importantly, members also have the option to remain as paid-up members beyond the normal retirement age, providing continued flexibility and security as they transition into retirement.

Key Features of Paid-up Membership

- Members can remain in Sentinel even after leaving their employer.
- Provides options to withdraw or transfer savings while preserving the retirement component.
- No risk cover for death or disability benefits for paid-up members.
- Cost-effective way to keep your savings safe.
- Helps you to make the best decisions for your retirement.

“This flexibility allows members to preserve their savings while exploring future financial strategies.”

Please note that the information in this brochure is a summary of the Rules of the Fund and does not create any rights and obligations. If differences or disputes arise, the Rules will prevail. The full set of Rules is available on the Fund’s website and at its offices.

Paid-up Membership Benefit Options

Paid-up member benefit options are based on your Full Fund Credit and consist of your vested, savings, and retirement components in the Fund. However, your Retirement Component cannot be encashed and must either be kept within Sentinel or be transferred to another approved fund.

Your benefit options, as a paid-up member, include:

Option	Details
Retirement	Elect to retire in the Fund at any time between the date on which you are within 10 years from NRA and have reached age 50.
Cash Withdrawal	Withdraw vested and savings components (if no withdrawal was taken in the current tax year). Retirement component remains preserved.
Full Transfer	Transfer all components (vested, savings, and retirement) to another approved fund.
Partial Withdrawal & Transfer	Withdraw part of vested and savings components (if no withdrawal was taken in the current tax year) and transfer the balance to another approved fund.

“Retirement (annuitisation) will become compulsory at NRA or a chosen date thereafter, either in Sentinel or any other approved fund that the member transfers to.”

SENTINEL'S VALUE PROPOSITION

The following summary provides a brief overview of Sentinel's product models for easy reference.

Member Investment Choice (MIC)

The Fund provides members with two investment options:

1. The Life Stage Model provides for automatic switching of members' total retirement savings from one investment portfolio to the next, as they approach retirement. Three investment portfolios are utilised in this model, these portfolios are:

- **Wealth Builder Portfolio**, an aggressive portfolio for younger members up to 12 years before NRA,
- **Inflation Protector Portfolio**, a moderate portfolio for members who have less than 12 but more than 5 years to NRA, and
- **Pension Protector Portfolio**, a conservative portfolio for members who have less than 5 years to retirement.

2. Member Investment Choice Model allows members to not follow the Life Stage Model.

This investment choice allows members to:

- Switch between Life Stage portfolios, Money Market, and Shari'ah options daily.
- Split capital between Life Stage portfolios and the Money Market portfolio.

For more detailed information about your investment options, please refer to the **Member Investment Choice brochure**. To view monthly investment returns, portfolio fact sheets, and the Fund's Investment Policy Statement (IPS), please visit our website (www.sentinel.za.com) and click on the **Investments** tab, alternatively click [HERE](#).

Pension Income Choice Options at Retirement

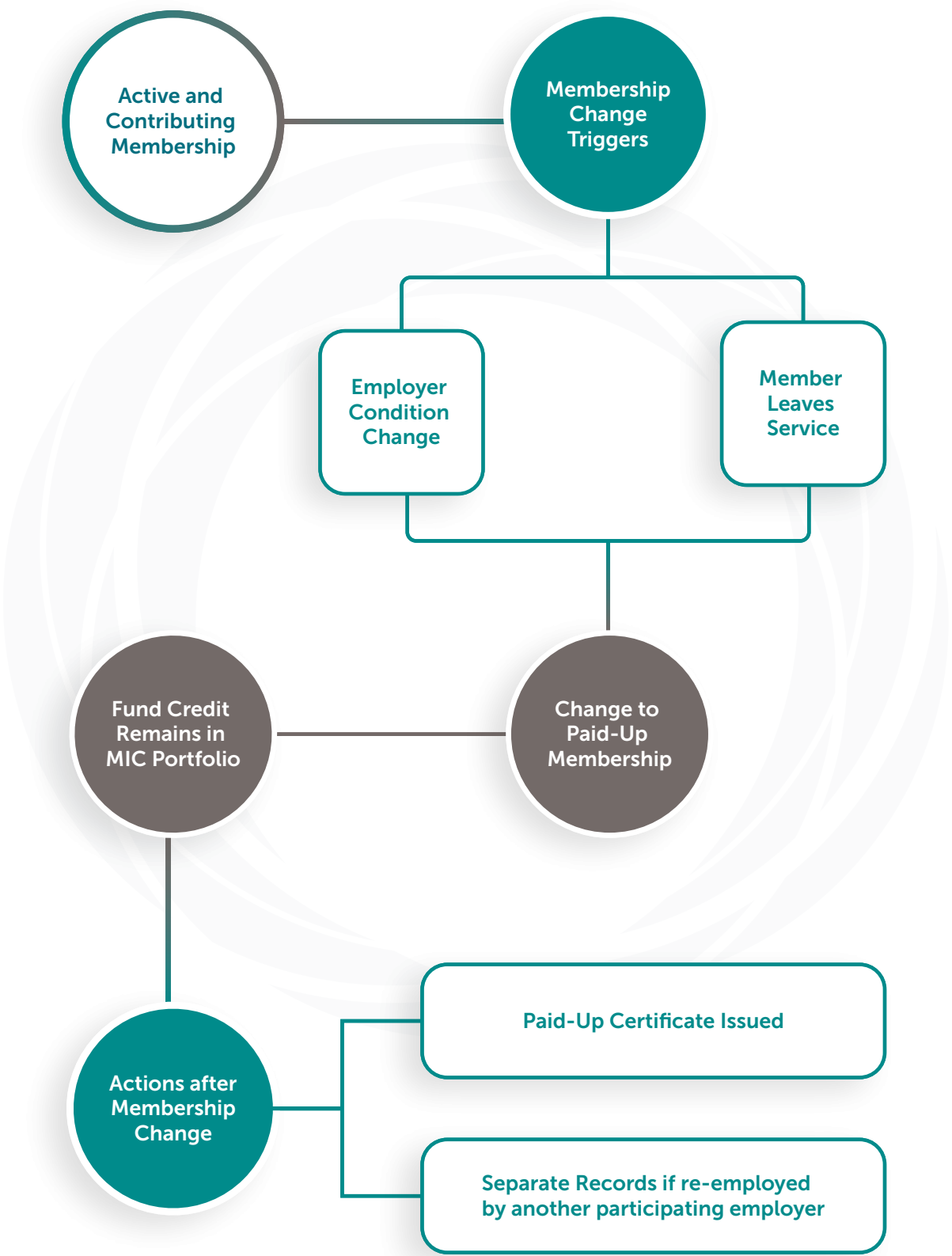
Members who retire and spouses of deceased members may, within prescribed parameters, provide for multiple pensions in **Sentinel's Pension Income Choice** product range. Options include "with profit" guaranteed pensions that provide term-based capital protection and spouse continuation options, and flexible pensions (living annuities) for members who have sufficient capital and wish to manage their pension capital and investment options themselves.

For more detailed information about your Pension Income Choice options, please refer to the **Pension Income Choice** brochure.



PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP PROCESS

The following flow chart explains the paid-up membership provisions that came into effect on 1 March 2019.



WHAT SENTINEL REQUIRES FROM PAID-UP MEMBERS

Sentinel depends on you to ensure that your personal information is accurate and up to date. While we have maintained all your current details in our system, it is essential that you inform us promptly if any of your information changes. This includes:

- Changes to contact details, including your postal address, telephone number and/or cellular phone number, email address, etc.
- Updates to your nomination form should your circumstances change and/or you want to amend your nomination of dependants or nominees.
- Marital status changes.

WHAT PAID-UP MEMBERS CAN EXPECT FROM SENTINEL

Administration Process and Systems

State-of-the-art, retirement-fund-specific, systems are utilised that have no capacity constraints. This system provides daily pricing and unitisation. IT infrastructure is hosted off-site and is web based providing real-time disaster recovery and ensures excellent business continuity provision.

Sentinel's Member Service Platform

Please continue to use Sentinels member service platform with the following key features:

- **24/7 Fund Access:** Monitor your fund affairs, including daily updated Fund Credit values, via a secure website. This platform enables timely electronic communication and allows for the completion of beneficiary nomination forms.
- **Comprehensive Communication:** Receive biannual newsletters, newsflashes, benefit brochures, annual benefit statements, and access all forms and materials via the [website](#).
- **Detailed Information:** Visit the [MEMBERS](#) tab on our website for resources, including fund access guides, member benefits, forms, brochures, and newsletters.
- **Benefit Counselling:** Speak to our trained counsellors before applying for benefits or exploring flexible options.

To access any of these services or obtain answers to questions that you may have, please contact our Contact Centre toll-free on **0800 77 6861**, email us at info@sentinel.za.com, or visit one of our Regional Client Service Centres.

THE TALE OF TWO MEMBERS: PRESERVE VS. WITHDRAW

Meet Thabo and Lerato

Thabo and Lerato were both members of Sentinel, having left their respective employers' services at the age of 35. At the time of leaving, Thabo and Lerato each had R500,000 in their Fund Credit.

Change to Paid-up Membership

- Thabo decided to preserve his retirement savings (full Fund Credit) as a paid-up member.
- Lerato decided to withdraw R400,000 in cash and spend it, leaving R100,000 (retirement component) as a paid-up member.

Scenario 1: Thabo's Future (Preserved)

Thabo preserved his Fund Credit (savings, vested and retirement components) in the Fund as a paid-up member, without further contributions, allowing his retirement savings to grow at an average annual return of 10%.

By the age of 65, Thabo's savings will grow to an impressive **R8,724,701**.

Scenario 2: Lerato's Future (Withdrawn)

Lerato withdrew R400,000 (savings and vested components) in cash and spent it. The remaining R100,000 (retirement component) was preserved in the Fund as a paid-up member, with an average annual return of 10%, with no further contributions.

By the age of 65, Lerato's savings will only grow to **R1,744,940**.

Key Lessons from the Tale of Two Members

- **Exponential Growth:** A higher growth rate combined with a larger initial amount has allowed Thabo to accumulate significantly more wealth than Lerato.
- **The Cost of Withdrawals:** Early withdrawals not only deplete savings but also reduce the potential for compounding growth.
- **Retirement Readiness:** Preserving savings ensures long-term security and a more comfortable retirement.



CONTACT DETAILS

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CLIENT SERVICE CENTRES

Carletonville	Klerksdorp	Welkom	Emalahleni
S Buys Office Park Shop no. 10 Corner Kaolin and Radium Streets	54 Buffelsdoorn Road, Flamwood, Klerksdorp, 2570.	Shop 24 The Strip 314 Stateway	WCMAS Building Corner OR Tambo and Susanna Streets Emalahleni (Witbank)
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Empowering You to a
SECURE FUTURE

