



PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 21, 2020

Recipients of Long Term (Pension) Benefits Urged to Verify for Benefit Continuation

The National Insurance Board wishes to advise the public that all persons eligible for long-term or pension benefits who have not verified within the last 6 months and who continue to meet the criteria for the continuation of their benefits, as required under the National Insurance Act, are required to verify before January 15, 2021.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the National Insurance Board stopped all face to face and in person verifications to protect the health of customers and staff. As an alternative, NIB provided options for drop off verifications and emailed verifications (verification@nib-bahamas.com). Many customers were able to use these services; however, many have not verified within the last 6 months and are now required to do so to avoid the cessation of their benefits.

As such, customers who have not verified within the last 6 months are urged to complete the required NIB verification form, found on NIB's website ([NIB - New Verification Forms \(nib-bahamas.com\)](#)) or available in hard copy from any of NIB's Offices, irrespective of your normal verification month. Completed forms should be submitted by January 15, 2021 to avoid the suspension of your January benefits. Please be sure to complete the forms thoroughly - paying close attention to aspects such as current income (if any), marital status and the age and educational status of dependent children, as applicable, as the absence of this information could delay your benefit payments for January 2021.

As face-to-face verifications remain suspended at NIB, customers are reminded that your forms should be certified/signed by any of the following:

- Counsel or Attorney of the Supreme Court
- Any Public Officer above the rank of Assistant Head of Department (i.e. First Assistant Secretary, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Under Secretary, Director or Permanent Secretary, etc)
- An ordained Minister of Religion (Pastor)
- Bank Manager
- Magistrate
- Justice of the Peace.

If you live outside of The Bahamas, you can also have your form validated by a:

- Notary Public
- Lawyer
- Chief of Police

Customers who have registered for the Registrant Self Service (RSS Portal) may continue to verify for retirement benefits through the online system. The National Insurance Board urges all long-term beneficiaries to comply to avoid suspension of your benefits in January 2021.

Contact: Tonique Williams | Public Relations Manager | tonique.williams@nib-bahamas.com

---END---