ASISA ACADEMY

ASISA FOUNDATION

Present

Pension Funds Act, Section 37C Death Benefits Masterclass

MAY 2026

1. WHAT IS THE ASISA ACADEMY?

The ASISA Academy, in partnership with the ASISA Foundation, makes available online a full series of Retirement Fund Trustee Education (RFTE) workshops at no cost to South African retirement funds and their trustees. The Academy is the preferred service provider for the ASISA Foundation which receives grant funding from sponsors for trustee education, thus allowing the workshops to be made available in this way. This pooled initiative ensures the independence of the education programme from the individual sponsors of the ASISA Foundation. Our workshops are aimed primarily at trustees and principal officers of retirement funds and are ideally run with individual funds but can also be delivered as multi-fund courses. Since inception we have delivered more than 600 workshops to more than 7,800 trustees and principal officers in South Africa, Botswana and Namibia, with highly favourable feedback.

2. ONLINE WORKSHOP LEARNING OUTCOMES

The following table summarises the Learning Areas and Learning Outcomes covered in this workshop:

PENSION FUNDS ACT, SECTION 37C DEATH BENEFITS MASTERCLASS (½ day – 3 hours)

Learning Area	**Learning Outcomes** - By the end of the course successful participants will be able to…
Legislative framework - a summary and overview	• To be able to have clear understanding of the construction of section 37C, its interpretation and the objectives.
Definition 'Dependant'	• To be able to describe each of the sub-paragraphs of the definition and these are paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) and to apply these practically; • analyse the complex issue of the common law legal duty to maintain different categories persons and these are- spouses, children, parents, grandparents and grandchildren, nephews and nieces and siblings • to identify different spouses in terms of the definition 'Spouse' in the PFA.
Issue of maintenance of another person	• To understand what in law constitutes maintenance versus generosity type payments falling short of the common law maintenance requirements.
The financial dependency and indigency tests.	• To describe and apply the financial and indigency tests in the board room.
Functus officio principle	• To describe and apply this administrative law principle in the board room.
Nominated beneficiaries	• To define the concept of a nominated beneficiary and the problems associated with a nominated beneficiary.

3. OUR PRESENTERS

Tony Remas

Tony has been practising as a retirement funds compliance consultant since 2002. Prior to that he worked in legal services for various investment advisors. He is a highly regarded practitioner in the pension fund statutory and regulatory environment, specialising in trustee education and in particular death benefit.

Lavinia Khangala B Proc, LLB, LLM, CFP

Lavinia holds B Proc, LLB qualifications and is an admitted Attorney, Conveyancer and Notary Public of the High court. She also holds a Masters of Law degree from the University of Cape Town and is a Certified Financial Planner from the Financial Planning Institute. She started her career in the financial services industry heading up legal and compliance departments of various financial institutions. Lavinia is currently an Independent Principal Officer and Trustee of a number of retirement Funds in the public and private sectors.

4. FEEDBACK FROM PAST DELEGATES

"Today's session meant that I could consolidate everything that I had learnt over the days of the course. It has been very valuable. I am very excited about the knowledge I have gained. Great course!"

"Overall, it was definitely encouraging, and I learnt new things once again. The course would be a great tool for all our staff members."

"What an excellent day! Learnt a tremendous amount from the brilliant speakers today."

"Great lecturers from the industry that has a wealth of knowledge to share. Thoroughly enjoyed it!"

"The program has broadened my perspective in terms of the actual industry - I am learning so much. It has been a great experience so far."

"Programme is fantastic, makes you apply your mind especially to the things you know but are ignorant of."

5. WORKSHOP CODE OF CONDUCT

Delegates, presenters and other Academy staff are all expected to engage in the following ways.

1. Delegates commit to learning on the course.
2. Delegates and Academy staff commit to signing in at least 10 minutes prior to the starting time so as not to delay the commencement of the session which puts pressure on the presenter and other delegates. The Zoom/ MS Teams room will open 10 minutes before the workshop is due to start. Please ensure that you have logged in and settled down comfortably by the starting time.
3. Academy staff commit to starting the workshop on time.
4. Delegates are requested to switch on their cameras at the start of the session. After introductions we request delegates to switch off their cameras in order to keep the platform stable and data usage optimised.
5. Delegates must ensure that their audio is muted throughout the session, except when participating in discussions or posing questions.
6. If delegates have questions or comments, they can use the chat platform or click the raised hand icon which can be located on the screen's "floating bar" in Microsoft Teams and by clicking on the "Participants" button in Zoom.
7. The presenter will agree a break time with delegates as part of the introductions.
8. When returning from the breaks, delegates are requested to switch on their microphones on re-entering the session so that the presenter can have an indication of the number of delegates that are back.
9. Delegates must advise the Academy if they are not able to make a session or if, for unavoidable reasons, they are going to be late.

6. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The ASISA Foundation-sponsored Trustee Education workshops are formally monitored and evaluated (M&E) by an independent agency. This M&E process ensures our trustee education programmes are planned and presented in a manner which brings about effective knowledge transfer, with real improved governance and financial literacy amongst delegates for the ultimate benefit of fund members and beneficiaries. The context of our online workshops has required adaptation of the M&E process, as explained below.

DELEGATE INTAKE FORMS

Each delegate will be asked to complete and submit online intake forms before the commencement of the workshop, including details of their retirement fund, role in the fund board, email address and demographics. We are required by the Financial Sector Code in the context as a BEE Regulator to keep statistics based on demographics and gender, hence we request that all demographic and gender statistics should be completed.

ASSESSMENT FORMS

Delegates will receive an online link to a workshop assessment form at the end of a workshop on which they are required to score various aspects of the workshop and make compliments or suggestions for improvements. Comments made by delegates may be used in marketing material.

M&E FEEDBACK FORMS

A first set of online questions is supplied to delegates via an online link before the workshop which delegates are asked to complete before the workshop commences. A second set of the same questions will be supplied via an online link to delegates at the end of the workshop. Answers are completely anonymous.

ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES

Delegates who have submitted all of the workshop documentation described above will receive emailed ASISA Academy attendance certificates which reflect 3 Batseta CPD points in respect of the half-day workshop. The fund remains responsible for ensuring that the CPD points awarded are updated on the Batseta database.

7. CONTACT INFORMATION

For course dates, venues and other information please contact the ASISA Academy on:

- Email: LEARN@asisaacademy.org.za
- Landline: +27 21 673 1627
- Website: https://www.asisa.org.za/academy/programmes/retirement-fund-trustee-education/