

# AGENTS ANSWERS

Inland Revenue's tax agents' update



**Inland Revenue**  
Te Tari Taake

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## REMINDERS

**15 January:** Instalments of provisional tax and student loan interim payments are due for your clients with a March balance date. November GST and employers' returns and payments are due.

**28 January:** GST return and payment due.

**7 February:** Income tax payments, student loan repayments and Working for Families Tax Credit payments are due for clients without an extension of time or a tax agent.

**8 February:** This is a guideline for having 80% of your clients' tax returns filed.

*If you have any suggestions for topics you'd like covered in this newsletter, email [agents.answers@ird.govt.nz](mailto:agents.answers@ird.govt.nz)*

## Payday filing

Remember, the law has changed so all employers must switch to payday filing by 1 April 2019.

You may be able to switch now, and here are some tasks to help you and your clients get ready:

- Review payroll processes, plan and schedule when to switch.
- Ask your software provider when they'll have payday filing compatible software.
- If your software provider has payday filing compatible software and you're using myIR you can let us know you're switching to payday filing in myIR. For your clients make sure you are linked for PAYE and you'll be able to bring the payroll returns account into your workspace.

In the meantime we're calling customers to talk them through opting into payday filing. Note that these calls are just to discuss payday filing, we won't be discussing debt or compliance issues.

For more information check out our webinars, live and on-demand, on CCH website ([www.cchlearning.co.nz/events/cat-58-inland-revenue](http://www.cchlearning.co.nz/events/cat-58-inland-revenue)) or go to our payday filing webpage [ird.govt.nz/payday](http://ird.govt.nz/payday)

### New payroll calculations and business rules

The new Payroll Calculations & Business Rules Specification for April 2019 to March 2020 is now available.

This document contains information on tax rates and thresholds, business rules associated with the various tax types, details of calculations required for specific tax codes and some calculation examples. It also includes information and rules relating to KiwiSaver, student loans and ESCT.

The Payroll Calculations & Business Rule Specification is independent of the way in which payroll information is sent to us and provides you with the rules and calculations that apply for both payday filing through gateway services and payday filing through file upload services. You can download this document from our payday products page on our website:

[www.ird.govt.nz/software-providers/explore-products-contents/payday-product-api/explore-payroll.html](http://www.ird.govt.nz/software-providers/explore-products-contents/payday-product-api/explore-payroll.html)

**Please note:** ACC rates and student loan thresholds will not be confirmed until March.

## Changing for You campaign

We're communicating with wage and salary earners about proposed changes to the end of year tax process, including tax refunds becoming automated. Go to our **Changing for You** website to find out more about how the proposed improvements could work and what the changes might mean for your customers.

## Are you owed a refund from ACC?

If you were in your first year of self-employment between 2002 and 2017, or paid provisional ACC levies after ceasing trading, ACC may owe you a refund. Customers receiving refunds will also receive an interest payment.

ACC will refund:

- all first-year levies collected between 2002-2017 from self-employed customers who worked full-time (averaged over 30 hours per week over the financial year), did not have a mix of employee and self-employed earnings and did not cease being self-employed in the same year.
- all businesses who paid provisional invoices and weren't required to do so because they later ceased trading or changed their business structure.

ACC expects the refund process to be completed by 31 March 2019.

### What you need to do

To find out if you may be eligible for a refund go to **acc.co.nz** or use MyACC for Business. If you may be eligible, you'll be prompted to provide up-to-date contact details.

For more information and updates about ACC levy refunds go to **acc.co.nz**, call 0800 222 776, or email **business@acc.co.nz**

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## Resource consents

A new interpretation statement *IS 18/06 - Income tax – treatment of costs of resource consents* has recently been issued. It addresses the various ways that the cost of a resource consent can be deducted or depreciated. You can find it on our website at **www.ird.govt.nz/technical-tax/interpretations/**



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