

BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION

March 2019

Latest news about Inland Revenue's
transformation



Start payday filing now

Has your business started payday filing? Payday filing will soon be compulsory, so get on board now.

With payday filing, Inland Revenue will receive more timely information to better calculate the tax obligations and entitlements of wage and salary earners – making tax more straightforward for New Zealanders.

All employers need to be payday filing from 1 April, which means that you will have to:

- File employment information every payday instead of an *Employer monthly schedule (IR348)*
- Provide new and departing employees' address information, as well as their date of birth – if they have provided it to you, and
- File electronically (from payday compatible software or through myIR) if your annual PAYE/ESCT is \$50,000 or more.

You can switch to payday filing now, so it's a good time to review your processes, plan, and schedule when to make the switch before it becomes mandatory.

Depending on the method you choose to start payday filing, you will need to do one of the following:

- If you're using software, check if it is payday filing compatible.
- If you're filing through myIR, make sure you are familiar with the new Payroll Returns account in the My business section.
- If you're filing through paper, make sure you have the new forms to fill in.

Remember, the due date for payment remains the same at the 20th of the month (or 5th and 20th of the month for twice-monthly filers).

Want more information? Inland Revenue's [payday filing website](#) has plenty of resources to help, including downloadable guides, how-to videos, checklists, and links to on-demand webinars.

Get your payday filing questions answered with our webinar

Want all your payday filing questions answered ahead of 1 April?

Our webinar on 25 March is a great opportunity to ask our panel of IR experts any burning questions you've got about payday filing.

You can either ask your queries during the webinar or send them in advance (before 15 March) to IRTransformation@ird.govt.nz. Don't miss out – [register today](#).



Changing for You

Last month, we told you about some of the proposed changes to make our tax system more straightforward for you. Two of the proposed changes are dependent on legislation currently going through Parliament, so you should expect to hear more from us over the coming months about what the changes mean for you.

To recap, here is some of what you can expect:

- If your only income is from salary or wages, or investment income, you will receive an end of year Income Tax Assessment between mid-May to mid-July.
- If you have additional sources of income, such as from business, rental property or from overseas, you will still need to provide us with this information and file an income tax return (IR3).
- If you've paid too much tax during the year, and your details are up to date in our system, you will automatically have a refund paid into your bank account.
- If you haven't paid enough tax, we will let you know how much you owe and when you need to pay.
- You will have the option to upload donation receipts online through myIR at any time during the year, rather than waiting until the end of the tax year.
- Since we will be receiving more regular information through payday filing, if it looks like you are on the wrong tax code, or are paying too little or too much tax, we can let you know.

For more information, visit our [Changing for You website](#).

Getting ready to support you

We've been busy holding dress rehearsals to test our timing and sequencing ahead of April, when the next wave of changes to make our tax system more straightforward will come into effect.

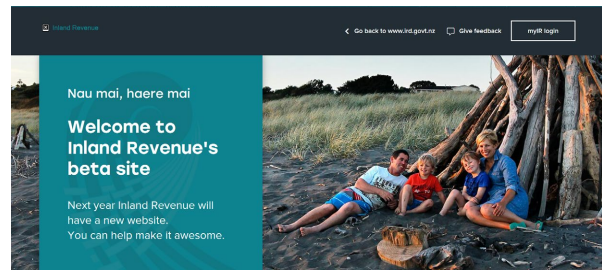
Our services will be unavailable for a short period to allow for the changes to be made. To minimise disruption for our customers and limit the time our services will be unavailable, the dates we have chosen take advantage of the Easter and Anzac Day public holidays. So what this will mean for you is our:

- core systems, our front of office counters and our contact centres will shut down from the afternoon of **Thursday 18th April 2019**.
- systems and services will be back open on the morning of **Friday 26th April 2019**.

Our customers are our priority and we have committed time and effort to get ready for this busy period. We are increasing the resilience of our systems to ensure they're available when you need them and training additional staff so they are ready to support you.

Upgrading IR's website - new content on beta site

We're completely redeveloping our website, including the look and feel, content, and the platform it sits on, so that customers, like you, have a great online experience. We're building content in sections on a beta, or test site, and our third round of content will be available from early March.



The new material covers tax on income and builds on the Child Support and Working for Families content we published in September and December last year.

We want to make the new IR website the best it can be, so, as with previous beta releases, we're keen to receive your feedback.

You can access the beta site via a link on the current IR website's homepage, as well as through links on the Child Support and Working for Families landing pages. In early March a link will also be available from the income tax landing page. Please take a look and complete the survey to share your thoughts.

Note that the beta site will be temporarily disabled from 1 April 2019, ahead of the April transformation release.

New website goes live in April

Following what we've tested so far on our beta site, our new website will go live as part of our next transformation release and will be available from the morning of Friday 26 April. It will feature:

- A new homepage
- A new look and feel, and layout
- Content previously tested on the beta site – Working for Families, Child Support, income tax
- Global search across the new site and all content on the old site
- Seamless navigation across both the new and old sites.

Not all content will be on the new website initially, but our global search will help you find what you're after and the improved navigation and site structure will enable you to seamlessly move between the two sites.

We'll continue to test further content on the beta site and then publish to the new site in the months following the April transformation release. We hope to have all our content on the new website by late 2019.

We'll keep you updated on what we're testing.

