



Inland Revenue
Te Tari Taake

IR7G
September 2020

Partnership and look-through company (LTC) return guide 2020

Read this guide to help you fill in your IR7 return.

Complete and send us your IR7 return by 7 July 2020,
unless you have an extension of time to file.



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Important changes

New residential property deduction rules (also known as the ring-fencing rules) apply to most residential rental properties for the 2019-20 income year, which ends on 31 March 2020 for most people. The changes include:

- limits to the amount of deductions you can claim if your residential rental property makes a loss
- inability to offset excess deductions/rental loss against other income. They are now generally carried forward and offset against future residential property income
- what happens to excess deductions when disposing of residential property
- limits on the amount of interest you can claim for an investment in an entity that rents out residential property.

The information in this guide is based on current tax laws at the time of printing.

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Introduction

Who must file an IR7 return

Every partnership or look-through company (LTC) must file an IR7 return showing their total income after expenses and attach either the **Partnership income/loss attribution - IR7P** or the **Look-through company (LTC) income/loss attribution - IR7L**.

The partnership or LTC is not assessed for tax, but each partner or owner is liable for tax on their share of income from the partnership or LTC.

Each partner or owner must file an individual tax return showing all income, including their share from the partnership or LTC.

Return due date

If the partnership or LTC has a 31 March balance date, you have until 7 July 2020 to send in the return, unless you've been granted an extension of time. If you have an agent or a balance date other than 31 March this date may be different.

Business industry classification (BIC) code

We're lawfully required to supply the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) with a code for your business or trading activity, for levy classification and calculation.

If your BIC code isn't preprinted on the return or is different from the preprinted one, please enter the correct code.

To work out your main business or trading activity and its code, go to **businessdescription.co.nz**

It's important that you choose the code which most accurately reflects your main business or trading activity. If you're unable to identify the correct code, call ACC on 0508 426 837.

Please provide the code only. Don't provide a description.

Has the partnership or LTC ceased?

If this is the final return, include a set of accounts (if required) up to the date the partnership or LTC ceased. Also include details of any distribution of assets and liabilities.

If the partnership or LTC is registered for GST or as an employer, you will also need to complete a **Business cessation - IR315** form to finalise your records.

Depending on the partnership's or LTC's circumstances, other issues may also need to be finalised, eg, outstanding returns and/or arrears.

Find out how to finalise the partnership's or LTC's tax accounts or deregister for GST at ird.govt.nz

Note

An LTC is still a legal entity until it's taken off the Companies Register. An LTC can stop trading but still have tax obligations, eg, filing returns.

Nil returns

Every partnership and LTC must file an income tax return, whether or not it has been active. If there is no gross income to declare, losses to claim, and no disclosures to make at Question 27 (read page 52) you can file a nil return. Complete the return up to Question 9 and sign the declaration at Question 28.

For more information on look-through company (LTC) rules, read our **Look-through companies - IR879** guide.

Questions

Question 10 Schedular payments

If the partnership or LTC has received schedular payments, we'll send you a Summary of income, detailing the payments received and the tax deducted.

From your Summary of income, copy the total tax deducted into Box 10A and gross payments into Box 10B.

The Summary of income may not contain all your earnings information. If any details are missing, please include them at Question 10.

If the partnership or LTC is registered for GST, your gross schedular payments should not include any GST. If they do, show the gross payments at Question 10 and deduct the GST portion at Question 23.

Question 11 New Zealand interest

Include interest from all New Zealand sources at Question 11.

The interest payer will usually send you an **RWT withholding certificate - IR15**, or similar statement, showing the gross interest paid and the amount of RWT deducted.

Write the total of all RWT deducted in Box 11A.

Add up all the gross interest amounts (before the deduction of any tax) and write the total in Box 11B.

Note

If expenses are deductible against the interest income (eg, commission), claim them at Question 23. Read the note about expenses on page 26.

Don't send in any interest statements or IR15 certificates with your return, but keep them in case we ask for them later.

Interest on broken term deposits

If you've broken a term deposit during the year, you may have to account for "negative interest". This is interest repaid on a term deposit and may reduce the amount of interest to declare in your return.

If the term deposit was broken in full, or it was business related, deduct the negative interest from the gross interest shown on the IR15 or equivalent statement. Deduct the allowable negative interest component, using the worksheet below, before entering the gross amount at Question 11 of your return. In all other cases, the negative interest is deductible in a future income year when the term deposit matures.

Worksheet

Copy your gross interest from your RWT on interest form to Box 1.

1 ▶

\$.

Print any negative interest you've paid in Box 2.

2 ▶

\$.

Subtract Box 2 from Box 1 and print the answer in Box 3.

3 ▶

\$.

Copy this amount to Box 11B of your tax return.

Interest paid or charged by Inland Revenue

If we paid you interest, include it in Box 11B for the income year the partnership or LTC received the interest.

If the partnership or LTC paid us interest, include it as a deduction in Box 23 of the return for the income year the interest is paid. Read about expenses on page 26.

Interest from overseas

If the partnership or LTC received interest from overseas, convert your overseas interest and tax credits to New Zealand dollars and show the amounts at Question 16. Please read the notes about overseas income on pages 14 to 17.

Income from financial arrangements

If the partnership or LTC was a party to a financial arrangement, such as government stock, local authority stock, mortgage bonds, futures contracts or deferred property settlements, you may have to calculate the income or expenditure from the financial arrangement using a spreading method, rather than on a cash basis. To work out if you must use a spreading method, please read "Financial arrangements" on pages 25 and 26.

If the financial arrangement matures, is sold, remitted or transferred, you must do a "wash-up" calculation, known as a base price adjustment.

Any RWT will be deducted on a cash basis. Show the RWT deducted and any income from the financial arrangement in Boxes 11A and 11B.

Question 12 New Zealand dividends

Dividends are the part of a company's profits that it passes on to its shareholders. Unit trusts are treated as companies for income tax purposes. Distributions from unit trusts will generally be taxable and are treated as dividends.

Complete Question 12 if you received any New Zealand dividends, including dividends from your local electricity or gas supplier. Don't include a dividend that's a distribution of the trust's capital and is tax free. The company or unit trust that paid you the dividend will send you a dividend statement.

Don't send in any dividend statements with your return, but keep them in case we ask for them later.

Note

If expenses are deductible against the dividend income (eg, commission), claim them at Question 23. Read the note about expenses on page 26.

Credits attached to dividends

A New Zealand company or unit trust may attach several types of credits to dividends.

"Imputation credits" are credits for part of the tax the company has already paid on its profits, which means the dividends aren't taxed twice.

RWT is deducted from your dividend to bring the total credits withheld up to 33% of the gross dividend.

What to show in your return

Your dividend statements show the amount:

- you received (net dividend)
- of any imputation credits
- of any RWT credits.

Add all these amounts together to work out your total gross dividends and enter this in Box 12B.

Add up all the imputation credits and print the total in Box 12. Add any dividend RWT credits and print the total in Box 12A.

Shares instead of dividends

If the partnership or LTC received shares instead of dividends, include them as income at Question 12. Write the amount as if you received dividends instead of shares.

Dividends from overseas

Please read about overseas income on pages 14 to 17 of this guide.

Question 13 Māori authority distributions

Māori authorities can make various types of distributions.

Fill in Question 13 if you received any taxable Māori authority distributions. The Māori authority that paid you the distribution will send you a Māori authority distribution statement.

Credits attached to distributions

The Māori authority may attach a credit to the distribution it makes to members. This credit will be classified as a "Māori authority credit". It is **usually** part of the tax the Māori authority has already paid on its profits, which means the distributions aren't taxed twice.

What to show in your return

Your Māori authority distribution statement shows the amount of:

- the distribution made to you, including what portion is taxable and what portion is non-taxable
- Māori authority credit.

Transfer these amounts, leaving out any non-taxable distributions, to the relevant boxes at Question 13.

Example

A Māori authority makes a pre-tax profit of \$10,000. It pays tax on this profit of \$1,750 (Māori authority tax rate of 17.5%) and distributes the entire profit to their 10 members. Each member will receive \$825 as a cash distribution and \$175 of Māori authority credits.

Each member of the authority who has to file an IR7 return would show the following information at Question 13:

Box 13A - \$175

Box 13B - \$1,000 (made up of \$825 + \$175)

Non-taxable distribution

You don't need to include in the IR7 return any other distributions received from a Māori authority that aren't taxable in the hands of a Māori authority member. These amounts are non-taxable distributions and can't have credits attached.

For more information read our **Māori authority guide - IR487**.

Question 14 Income from another partnership

If the partnership or LTC received any income or loss from another partnership, write the details at Question 14.

Don't include any:

- interest and RWT - show these at Question 11
- dividends, imputation credits, and dividend RWT - show these at Question 12
- Māori authority distributions and credits - show these at Question 13
- overseas income and any credits attached - show these at Question 16, see pages 14 to 17
- residential property income - show this at Question 18, see page 18
- other rental income - show this at Question 19, see page 21
- taxable property sales/disposals - show this at Question 20, see page 22
- other income - show this at Question 21, see pages 24 to 26.

Add up all the other income from partnerships and include the total in Box 14B. If a loss, put a minus sign in the last box.

Add up any other tax credits and include the total in Box 14A.

Question 15 Income from another LTC

If the LTC received income from another LTC, write the details at Question 15.

Note

A partnership does not receive income or deductions from an LTC. If two or more people jointly receive income or deductions from an LTC, they should show these on their own returns, not the partnership's return.

LTCs are transparent (looked through), meaning the owners are treated as having received the income and incurred the loss of the company.

The LTC will normally supply the information required to complete your return.

Don't include any of the following types of income received from another LTC at Question 15:

- interest and RWT - show these at Question 11
- dividends, imputation credits, and dividend RWT - show these at Question 12
- Māori authority distributions and credits - show these at Question 13
- overseas income and any credits attached - show these at Question 16, see pages 14 to 17
- residential property income - show this at Question 18, see page 18
- other rental income - show this at Question 19, see page 21
- taxable property sales/disposals - show this at Question 20, see page 22
- other income - show this at Question 21, see pages 24 to 26.

Change to the loss limitation rule

This rule limits the amount of deductions an owner can claim to the amount of their "owner's basis", which represents their economic interest in the LTC.

The loss limitation rule no longer applies to most LTC owners. It continues to apply for owners of LTCs that are in a partnership or joint venture that includes another LTC.

What to show on your return

Add up all the other income from LTCs and include the total in Box 15B. If a loss, put a minus sign in the last box.

Add up any other tax credits and include the total in Box 15A.

Add up any non-allowable deductions this year from LTCs and include the total in Box 15C.

Note

There shouldn't be non-allowable deductions this year unless the loss limitation rule still applies.

If you had any non-allowable deductions brought forward from last year, you may be able to claim some, or all, of the brought forward amount this year. Print the amount claimable in Box 15D prior years' non-allowable deductions claimed this year.

If you have an amount in Box 15C, add this to Box 15B and put the total in Box 15E.

If you have an amount in Box 15D, subtract this from Box 15B and put the total in Box 15E.

If you don't have any amounts in Box 15C or Box 15D, copy the amount from Box 15B into Box 15E.

Box 15E is your adjusted LTC income.

Question 16 Overseas income

If the partnership or LTC received overseas income, eg, from interest or financial arrangements, show this at Question 16.

Convert all overseas income and qualifying overseas tax paid to New Zealand dollars. You can do this by:

- using the rates available on ird.govt.nz/tools-calculators
- contacting the overseas section of a trading bank and asking for the exchange rate for the day you received your overseas income.

Tax paid overseas is distributed to the partners or owner(s) and the tax credit limit is calculated on the partner's or owner's income tax return. Keep evidence of overseas tax paid with your tax records for seven years. For more information about foreign tax credits read **A guide to foreign investment funds and the fair dividend rate - IR461**.

If the income was received from a financial arrangement, please read our **Tax Information Bulletin (TIB), Vol 20, No 3 (April 2008)**.

Overseas dividends

There are two situations covering the treatment of overseas dividends. Each owner or partner will need to determine which of the following applies to their share of foreign investments:

- If the shares have FIF income or loss calculated, don't include any dividends paid from these shares on the IR7 return. Instead, show the calculated FIF income or loss at Box 16B.
- If the shares are covered by one of the FIF exclusions (see page 16), show the dividends at Box 16B.

Each owner or partner will need to advise their individual amount of either the FIF income or loss (or their FIF calculation method) or the dividend, to be included on the IR7 return. Show each owner's or partner's individual amount, plus any other allocation of overseas income, at Box 16B on the IR7 return and at Box 26F on the IR7L or IR7P form - see page 30. This information is also used in determining the income amount at Box 4 on page 36 of this guide.

In either situation, include any qualifying overseas tax credits attached to the dividends at Box 16A. Some Australian dividends can have New Zealand imputation credits attached. Include these at Box 12. **Please note you can't claim Australian franking credits.**

If the partnership or LTC received dividends from an overseas company through an agent or trustee who deducted RWT in New Zealand or dividends treated as interest, show the New Zealand RWT deducted at Box 12A.

Note

If you've shown an imputation credit in Box 12 or an RWT credit in Box 12A and there is no income associated to these in Box 12B, you'll need to attach a note to the top of page 3 of your return with the details.

Foreign investment fund (FIF) income or loss

If at any time during the 2020 income year the partnership or LTC held rights like shares, units or an entitlement to benefit in any foreign company, foreign unit trust, foreign superannuation scheme or foreign life insurance policy, the partners or owner(s) may be required to calculate FIF income or loss in their own income tax return(s).

Generally, the partners or owner(s) will use the fair dividend rate to calculate FIF income. The partners or owner(s) may also need to file an additional FIF disclosure form. See Question 27 on page 52.

The main exclusions from an interest in a FIF are:

- investments in certain Australian resident companies listed on approved indices on the Australian stock exchange, that maintain franking accounts. Investments covered in the list are available in the **Australian share exemption list - IR871**
- interest in certain Australian unit trusts
- limited exemptions for interest in certain venture capital interests that move offshore (for 10 income years from the income year in which the company migrates from New Zealand)
- a 10% or greater interest in a CFC
- an individual or trustee of certain trusts, who is a partner or owner and holds, at all times in the income year, FIFs with a total cost of \$50,000 or less.

You can find more information on the exclusions and the FIF rules at ird.govt.nz/foreign-investment-funds and in our **Tax Information Bulletins (TIBs)** - see the online index for relevant issues.

Controlled foreign company (CFC) income or loss

If at any time during the 2020 income year the partnership or LTC has attributed CFC income or loss, the partners or owner(s) may be required to calculate this in their own income tax return(s).

A loss from a CFC can't be used to offset domestic income or be included in domestic losses that are carried forward to the 2020 income year. Generally, these losses can

only offset income or future income from CFCs that are resident in the same country as the CFC that incurred the loss.

The partners or owner(s) may also need to file an additional CFC disclosure form. See Question 27 on page 52.

Question 17 Business income

Write the net profit or loss in Box 17B. This is the amount of income or loss after deducting all allowable business expenditure. If this is a loss, put a minus sign in the last box. Refer to our **Smart business - IR320** guide for information on allowable business expenditure and record keeping.

Attach one of these to the top of page 3 of your return:

- a set of the partnership's or LTC's financial accounts
- a completed **Financial statements summary - IR10** form
- a completed **Farming income - IR3F** form or **Schedule of business income - IR3B** form.

If you complete an IR10, which speeds up the processing of the return, you don't need to send us your financial accounts as well, but keep them in case we ask for them later.

Attribution rule

Anyone who provides services and puts an intermediary between themselves and the recipient of the personal service has income earned allocated to them, not the intermediary.

If this rule applies to persons associated to your partnership or LTC, it will affect the amount of taxable income in this return.

When applying the attribution rule, LTCs are treated as associated entities and not as being transparent.

To find out how to apply this rule, please read our **Tax Information Bulletins (TIBs), Vol 12, No 12 (December 2000), Vol 13, No 11 (November 2001), and Vol 21, No 8 Pt 2 (October/November 2009)**.

If you need more information, please call us - see page 54.

Question 18 Income and expenditure from residential property

This question applies to owners of residential rental property, including overseas property subject to the residential rental property deduction rules in subpart EL of the Income Tax Act 2007.

Most residential rental properties are subject to the residential property deduction rules (also known as the ring-fencing rules). The rules generally limit the amount of residential deductions you can claim in the year to the total amount of residential income earned in that year. If the residential property makes a loss it must be carried forward to the next year in which residential income, including income from properties held on revenue account, is earned.

The residential property calculations are made at the partner or owner level as they may have other residential income and deductions that need to be included. There are two levels of exclusions from the rules.

Any rental income or loss and net income or loss from a taxable disposal is fully excluded from the rules if the property is:

- the main home;
- property subject to the mixed-use asset rules (holiday home rented out part-time);
- property owned by companies other than close companies;
- property owned by government enterprises;
- certain employee accommodation.

For these types of property, the existing rules apply with the rental income or loss shown at Box 19B and net income or net loss from a taxable disposal shown in Box 20B.

Any rental net loss and net loss from a taxable disposal is partially excluded from the new rules if it is for:

- property that will always be taxed on sale, being revenue account property of a person in the business of building, developing or dealing in land;
- other revenue account property the person has notified us they want the exclusion to apply to.

For these types of property any rental net loss is shown at Box 19B and taxable disposal net loss is shown at Box 20B. Net rental income and net income from a taxable disposal plus any depreciation recovered is shown as residential income at Box 18B.

Refer to the **Rental income - IR264** guide for information on when the rules apply, how to calculate your income, the amount of deductions you can claim this year, and the amount of any excess deductions that must be carried forward.

The residential property deduction rules also apply to a partnership or LTC that has borrowed money to acquire an interest in certain entities with significant rental property holdings - a residential land-rich entity - and has interest expenditure on the borrowed money.

Residential land-rich entity - a close company, partnership or LTC that holds more than 50% of its assets by value in residential land directly or indirectly. They come under the interposed entities rules as part of the residential property deduction rules.

For more information about the interposed entity rules, see page 60 of the **Tax Information Bulletin Vol 31 No.8 September 2019**.

Completing Question 18 your return

Tick the method/s you have used to calculate your residential property income and deductions.

You use one of the following:

- **Portfolio** basis - combine the income and deductions for all rental properties in the portfolio.
- **Individual**, property-by-property basis - income and deductions of individual property calculated separately to other property. You need to maintain separate records for each property to choose this option. The details for each property need to be provided to the partners or owners.
- **Combination** of the property-by-property basis and portfolio basis - choose to apply different methods to different property. Some properties are held in a portfolio and others are held on property-by-property basis.

For a partnership most of the calculations for excess rental deductions are made in the partners return. The partnership needs to provide sufficient information for the partners to complete their return correctly. If a partner wants to use the individual method the partnership needs to maintain separate records for each rental property and pass each property's details to the partner.

For an LTC, the owners need to complete their return using the same method chosen by the LTC for their share of the income and deductions. An owner can choose a different method for other rental properties they own.

Example

An LTC uses the portfolio method. The portfolio was loss-making overall, so any shareholder who directly holds other residential properties subject to the ring-fencing rules can include those other properties as part of the portfolio. They can then use their share of the deductions that flow through from the LTC against their total residential income. This includes their residential income from the LTC and any other residential income they derive.

Example

An LTC uses the property-by-property basis. The shareholders must also use this method in their own returns. So, if residential deductions for the property exceed the residential income from the property, the shareholder can only use their share of the deductions up to their share of the income from the property. Their excess deductions cannot be used against residential income from a property they own directly.

The Residential property deductions worksheets - IR1226 can be used to calculate the information required to be shown in your return.

Write the total residential income in Box 18B. This is the total of the following amounts:

- (a) all residential rental income from a portfolio and/or individual property;
- (b) all depreciation recovery income for assets disposed of from a portfolio and/or individual property;
- (c) net income from the taxable sale/disposal of a property in a portfolio and/or individual property; and
- (d) all net residential rental income, depreciation recovery income and net income from the taxable disposal of property from residential property excluded because it is held on revenue account.

Only include the net income from a disposal once.

Write the total eligible deductions for residential rental properties in Box 18C.

Include the amount of any interest paid on an investment in a residential land rich entity that relates to residential rental activity in Box 18B. Include the amount of other interest paid in Box 19B.

The partners or owners share of these are shown in boxes 26G and 26M on the IR7P or IR7L.

Note

If you have taxable net income from other residential properties outside the rules, such as net rental income from a property held on revenue account or net income from a taxable disposal, you can allocate this income across any rental properties with excess deductions and include it in Box 18B Total residential income.

Question 19 Other rental activities income

Write the net profit or loss (total rents minus expenses) in Box 19B. If this is a loss, put a minus sign in the last box. Only include net residential rental income or losses not covered by the residential property deduction rules such as commercial rental income. Do not include any residential rental income already included at Question 18.

Attach one of these to the top of page 3 of your return:

- a set of the partnership's or LTC's financial accounts
- a completed **Financial statements summary - IR10** form
- a completed **Rental income - IR3R** form.

Question 20 Income from taxable property sales/disposals

Include all income from land sales that are excluded from the residential property deduction rules. Tax losses from disposals of residential property are also included under this question. Net income from a bright-line sale is included under Residential income at Question 18, except the main home and holiday home taxed under the mixed-use asset rules.

The profits are taxable if the partnership or LTC:

- buys a property for the purpose or intention of resale
- buys and sells land and/or buildings as a business

The profits may be taxable if the partnership or LTC:

- trades as a builder and improves a property before selling it
- develops or subdivides land and sells sections
- has a change of zoning on its property, and sells it within 10 years of buying it.

If the partnership or LTC is a New Zealand tax resident it will need to pay tax on its worldwide income under New Zealand tax law. This includes any property sales worldwide whether caught under the bright-line test for residential property sales or the other property rules.

If the partnership or LTC purchased a residential property on or after 1 October 2015 and sold/disposed of it within the bright-line period, any profit will be taxable, whether the intention at the time of purchase was for resale or not. This is called the bright-line test.

The bright-line period for:

- properties purchased/acquired on or after 1 October 2015 through to 28 March 2018 inclusive, is two years,
- properties purchased/acquired on or after 29 March 2018 is five years.

Write the income or loss (other than a bright-line income or loss) at Box 20B.

For more information on property sales see our guide **Buying and selling residential property - IR313**.

Complete a **Property sale information - IR833** form for each property sold/disposed of and include it with the return. The form explains how to calculate and correctly return the resulting profit or loss. The form can be downloaded from our website ird.govt.nz Complete the form even if the details have been included in a **Financial statements summary - IR10** or set of accounts.

Question 20A Residential land withholding tax (RLWT) credit

If a partner had RLWT deducted from the sale or transfer of a residential property located in New Zealand, they'll need to show the full amount of the RLWT in their own individual income tax return. Don't include it in the partnership tax credits.

If the LTC is an "offshore RLWT person" and has sold or transferred residential property located in New Zealand, RLWT may have been deducted from the sale price.

The LTC should have received a statement on the completion of the sale process showing the amount of RLWT deducted. The LTC can claim a credit for any RLWT deducted. Show the amount of RLWT deducted, less any RLWT paid back to the LTC and/or transferred to outstanding amounts during the income year.

If there was more than one amount of RLWT deducted, show the combined amount, less any RLWT paid back to the LTC and/or transferred to outstanding amounts during the income year.

Question 21 Other income

If you invested capital in a partnership or LTC but didn't take an active part in the day-to-day operation or management of the business, any earnings would be considered passive income. Enter this amount at Question 21 unless you've already included it at another Question on your return.

Also at Question 21 show any other income the partnership or LTC received, eg, sale of:

- non-FIF shares or other property
- securities.

If the partnership or LTC received any of the income listed above, please read the following.

Income from sale of non-FIF shares or other property

Profits from the sale of shares and other property are taxable if the partnership or LTC buys:

- and sells shares or other property as a business
- shares or other property for resale
- shares or property to make a profit.

List the details of gross income and expenses from these sales on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to the top of page 3 of your IR7. Include the total profits in Box 21B.

Selling or disposing of assets

If the partnership or LTC sold or disposed of a depreciated asset for more than its adjusted tax value, you may need to account for depreciation recovered.

You can use the depreciation calculator on our website ird.govt.nz to get a complete depreciation schedule for any asset. The schedule includes the amount to claim in the year of purchase and any adjustment in the year of sale. For further information please read **Depreciation - a guide for businesses - IR260**, and either **Depreciation rates - IR265** or **Historic depreciation rates - IR267**.

Losses from shares or other property

If the partnership or LTC has made a loss and you can show that if the partnership or LTC had made a profit it would have been taxable, the partnership or LTC may be able to claim the loss as an expense. Include the total loss at Box 21B.

Write the details of the loss on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to the top of page 3 of your IR7. Include details of other profits or losses made from similar sales, whether in this tax year or earlier.

Financial arrangements

A partner or owner must account for income from financial arrangements on an accrual basis. Financial arrangements include government stock, local authority stock, mortgage bonds, futures contracts and deferred property settlements.

Changes to the rules for the treatment of financial arrangements have split the rules into two sets. Generally, the first set applies to financial arrangements entered into before 20 May 1999 and the second applies to financial arrangements entered into, on or after that date.

Both sets of rules require the income or expenditure to be spread over the term of the financial arrangement. Both sets of rules allow some exceptions from these spreading provisions if the partner or owner is a cash-basis holder (under the first set of rules), or a cash-basis person (under the second set of rules).

The partner or owner is a **cash-basis holder** if, before 20 May 1999:

- they held financial arrangements of \$600,000 or less in value, or
- the income derived from the financial arrangements was \$70,000 or less, and
- the difference between the person's gross income calculated under the cash basis and that calculated under the accrual method is no more than \$20,000.

The partner or owner is a **cash-basis person** if, from 20 May 1999:

- the value of all financial arrangements added together is less than \$1 million, or
- the absolute value (the value no matter whether it's a positive or a negative figure) calculated under the accrual rules in the income year from the financial arrangement is less than \$100,000, and
- in comparing the gross income and expenditure using a spreading method under the accrual rules with the cash-basis income and expenditure, the result is less than \$40,000.

To determine whether the partner or owner is a cash-basis holder or cash-basis person, they must take into account their share of the financial arrangement, or their share in the gross income or expenditure under the financial arrangement the partnership or LTC is a party to.

Sale or maturity of financial arrangements

Whether or not the exemption from the spreading methods applies, when a financial arrangement matures, is sold, remitted or transferred, you must do a "wash-up" calculation, known as a base price adjustment. The calculation ensures the total gains or losses from the financial arrangement are accounted for.

If you need any information about calculating a base price adjustment, please call us on 0800 443 773.

Loss carry-back

Where on your return to claim loss carry-back

You must let us know if you are going use the loss carry-back scheme. If you are a partnership or look-through company, each partner or shareholder needs to elect into the loss carry-back scheme. They can do this in the 'I want to' section of your income tax account in myIR and selecting "Opt-in to carry-back loss".

The income attributed from the partnership or look-through company will be reduced by the amount of loss carried back. The partnership or look-through company does not need to elect into the loss carry-back scheme.

However, they will need to show the loss carried back in the IR7 return.

Claiming a loss carry-back in 2019 from 2020

If the partnership or look-through company has a 2020 loss you want to carry back to 2019, enter the loss amount in box 21B (Other income) in the 2020 income tax return.

You will then need to amend the 2019 IR7 income tax return (if already filed) to include the loss.

Each partner or shareholder will be required to amend their own 2019 IR3 return with the reduced income allocation to obtain a refund of tax paid. In myIR they choose amendment reason “loss carry-back”. Select income type “you are claiming net losses brought forward” and enter their allocation of the loss carried-back in box 28B (Amount of loss claimed this year).

Claiming a loss carry-back in 2020 from 2021

If the partnership or look-through company is estimating a loss in 2021 which they want to carry back, enter the estimated loss in box 21B as a loss (Total other income- if a loss put a minus sign in the last box).

Each partner or shareholder will need to elect into the loss carry-back scheme and file their 2020 IR3 returns with their allocation of the expected loss in box 30B (Amount claimed this year).

Question 23 Expenses

The partnership or LTC may have incurred expenses in generating its income, for example:

- commission deducted from interest and dividends
- expenses for return preparation
- interest paid to Inland Revenue for late payment of tax in the income year it is paid.

If the expenses have not already been claimed in the return, print the amount in Box 23.

Question 25 Deduction for losses extinguished on transition from a QC or LAQC

If the partnership or LTC had losses which were extinguished on transitioning from a QC or LAQC, each owner or partner is allowed a deduction for an amount equal to the amount given by the following formula:

$$\begin{aligned} & (\text{Loss balance extinguished} - \text{prior years' deductions}) \\ & \times \text{partnership share or owner's effective interest} \end{aligned}$$

Note

This is limited to the partner's or owner's share of net partnership or net LTC income for the year.

Loss balance extinguished is the loss balance extinguished on transition from a QC or LAQC. If it includes foreign losses please call us on 0800 377 774 to make sure they are accounted for correctly.

Prior years' deductions is the total amount of deductions for extinguished losses allowed in previous income years for all persons with a share in the partnership, or an effective look-through interest in the LTC. If this is the first year deductions have been claimed for extinguished losses, the amount will be zero.

Work out the maximum allowable deduction for each owner or partner using the calculation table below and on page 28.

Boxes 1 to 3 only need to be completed once. Use the resulting figures for all owners or partners.

Boxes 4 to 9 must be completed for each owner or partner using their information from the IR7L or IR7P.

Loss balance extinguished
(copy this figure to Box 25
on the IR7)

1 ▶

\$

Prior years' deductions
(copy this figure to Box 25A
on the IR7)

2 ▶

\$

Subtract Box 2 from Box 1
and print the answer in Box 3.

3 ▶

\$

If the answer in Box 3 is zero, no further deductions for extinguished losses can be claimed by the owners or partners. If it is greater than zero, continue below.

Note

Information on completing the IR7L is explained later in this guide. Attribution of income/loss is explained on page 29, and how to complete Box 26Q is explained on pages 31 to 38 of this guide.

Copy the total income figure from Box 26K on the IR7L or IR7P to Box 4

4 ▶

\$.

For LTC owners, copy any non-allowable deductions this year from Box 26Q on the IR7L to Box 5

5 ▶

\$.

Add Boxes 4 and 5 and print the answer in Box 6.

6 ▶

\$.

If Box 6 is a loss, the owner or partner isn't entitled to a deduction this year. If it isn't a loss, continue below.

Convert the owner's or partner's attribution of income/loss from Box 26B on the IR7L or IR7P to a decimal amount (eg, 40% = .40). Print the answer in Box 7.

7 ▶

Multiply Box 3 by Box 7 and print the answer in Box 8.

8 ▶

\$.

Print the amount from either Box 6 or Box 8, whichever is the lesser, in Box 9 below. This is the maximum deduction for the owner or partner.

Maximum deduction

9 ▶

\$.

Copy the amount from Box 9 to Box 26L on the IR7L or IR7P form.

Add up the maximum deductions for all owners or partners and print the answer in Box 25B of the IR7 return.

Question 26 Attribution of income/loss

All income, losses and tax credits must be attributed to the partners or owners in proportion to their share in the partnership or effective look-through interest in the LTC.

At Question 26 tick which entity the income/loss details are attached for.

- For partnerships, complete the IR7P to provide attribution details for all partners.
- For LTCs, complete the IR7L to provide attribution details for all owners.

Show the details for each partner or owner on the relevant form. If there are more than two partners or owners use additional IR7P or IR7L forms. You can print them from our website ird.govt.nz as you need them.

Attach all IR7P or IR7L forms to the top of page 3 of your IR7 return.

Completing your IR7L or IR7P

Box 26A IRD number

Print the partner's or owner's IRD number. If you don't know their IRD number you will need to contact them to request it.

Box 26B Attribution of income/loss

Show the attribution of income or loss the partner or owner is entitled to as a percentage of the total. Write percentages as four-digit numbers, eg show 15% as 15.00.

Note

For LTCs with only one owner the percentage will be a five-digit number, eg show 100% as 100.00.

For LTCs, effective look-through interest determines each owner's attribution of income or loss from the LTC.

Each owner's effective look-through interest is generally determined by the percentage of shares the owner has in the LTC.

Please read our **Look-through companies - IR879** guide if you need further information.

Boxes 26C to 26J Attributed income/loss

Print the partner's or owner's attribution of:

- interest (from Question 11) in Box 26C
- dividends (from Question 12) in Box 26D
- Māori authority distributions (from Question 13) in Box 26E
- overseas income (from Question 16) in Box 26F
- residential income (from Question 18) in Box 26G
- other rental income (from Question 19) in Box 26H
- other passive income (from Questions 20 and 21 minus any relevant expenses at Question 23, including income received by a non-active partner or owner in the business) in Box 26I
- all other income and expenses (not already included in Boxes 26C to 24I) in Box 26J.

Box 26K Total income

Print the total of all Boxes 26C, 26D, 26E, 26F, 26G, 26H, 26I and 26J in Box 26K. If a loss, put a minus sign in the last box.

Note

The totals of all partners' or owners' Box 26Ks must add up to the IR7 income or loss shown in Box 24. If they don't, it will take us longer to process your return.

Box 26L Deduction for extinguished losses

See instructions on pages 27 to 28 of this guide.

Box 26M Residential rental deductions

Print the partner's or owner's attribution in Box 26M.

Boxes 26N, 26O and 26P Attributed tax credits

Print the partner's or owner's attribution of:

overseas tax paid (from Question 16) in Box 26N

- imputation credits (from Question 12) in Box 26O
- other tax credits (from Questions 10 to 15, excluding any imputation credits) in Box 26P.

Boxes 26Q to 26T Non-allowable deductions (IR7L only) - where loss limitation rule doesn't apply for the owner(s)

Note

This information applies for an LTC who is not subject to the loss limitation rule. See the note on page 12.

Non-allowable deductions this year

There won't be non-allowable deductions this year as the loss limitation rule no longer applies. Do not include an amount in Box 26Q.

Non-allowable deductions brought forward

Note

The LTC should have records of the non-allowable deductions brought forward.

Prior years' non-allowable deductions claimed this year

This will be the same as the amount in Box 26R and is the amount claimable this year. Copy the amount in Box 26R to Box 26S.

Non-allowable deductions carried forward

There should be no non-allowable deductions to carry forward. Leave Box 26S blank.

Example 1

Loss limitation rule no longer applies - owner with previously non-allowable deductions

The following details are for Catherine who owns all of the shares in Company A, an LTC.

IRD number	12-121-212
Total gross income	\$10,000
Expenses/deductions	\$15,000
Loss	\$5,000
Non-allowable deductions brought forward	\$10,000

Boxes 26Q to 26T Non-allowable deductions (IR7L only) - where loss limitation rule still applies for the owners(s)

Note

This information only applies for an LTC that is in a partnership or joint venture with another LTC.

The loss limitation rule ensures that the deductions claimed reflect the level of an owner's economic loss in the LTC. The "owner's basis" refers to the adjusted tax book value of an owner's investment in the LTC. The deductions an owner can claim are restricted if the overall deductions exceed the owner's basis in the LTC.

See examples of the loss limitation rule on pages 38 to 53.

Note

For each owner calculate their owner's basis and any non-allowable deductions using the tables and information on pages 36 and 37. Please see Part 7 of our **Look-through companies - IR879** guide before calculating the owner's basis. It explains the terms used in the following calculation.

If there's more than one owner, complete the tables on pages 36 and 37 for each owner separately.

Calculate the owner's basis here:		
Investments	1 ▶	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="."/>
Distributions	2 ▶	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="."/>
Subtract Box 2 from Box 1	3 ▶	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="."/>
Income	4 ▶	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="."/>
Add Boxes 3 and 4	5 ▶	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="."/>
Deductions from previous tax years (but excluding any non-allowable deductions in those years)	6 ▶	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="."/>
Subtract Box 6 from Box 5	7 ▶	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="."/>
Disallowed amounts	8 ▶	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="."/>
Subtract Box 8 from Box 7*	9 ▶	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="."/>

* If Box 9 is a negative amount it means the owner has negative equity in the LTC and their owner's basis will be treated as nil. Print "0.00" in Box 9.

Please note - deductions in Box 6 above also includes all the deductions claimed against gross income from the LTC from all sources in previous years in which the company was an LTC. For example, if the LTC has a rental property, all the deductions claimable against the rental income will be included in the total deductions figure, as well as expenses incurred in producing income from all other sources.

When each owner's basis (Box 9 on this page) has been calculated you can work out if there is any limitation on the deductions claimable for each owner. If the:

- owner's basis (Box 9) is more than their attribution of the deductions (expenses), you won't need to complete Box 26Q - go to Non-allowable deductions.
- attribution of deductions (expenses) to the owners are more than their owner's basis you'll need to complete Boxes 1 to 3 below to calculate the amount to declare at Box 26Q.

Attribution of this year's deductions (expenses)	1 ▶	\$	<input type="text"/>	.	<input type="text"/>
Owner's basis (from Box 9 on page 36)	2 ▶	\$	<input type="text"/>	.	<input type="text"/>
Subtract Box 2 from Box 1	3 ▶	\$	<input type="text"/>	.	<input type="text"/>

The result is non-allowable deductions this year. Copy the amount from Box 3 into Box 26Q on your IR7L.

Any deductions an owner can't claim because of the loss limitation rule are carried forward and may be claimed in future years, subject to the application of the loss limitation rule in those years. Owners may only use these deductions against income from the LTC.

Non-allowable deductions

Complete the calculation (Boxes 1 to 5) on this page if you have:

- non-allowable deductions brought forward from last year (copy the amount from Box 24R Non-allowable deductions on your IR7L 2019 form into Box 26R on your IR7L 2020 form) and/or
- non-allowable deductions this year (that means Box 26Q has an amount in it).

Non-allowable deductions brought forward (also show this amount in Box 26R).	1 ▶	\$	<input type="text"/>	.	<input type="text"/>
Non-allowable deductions this year (Box 3 on page 37, put zero if you don't have non-allowable deductions)	2 ▶	\$	<input type="text"/>	.	<input type="text"/>
Add Boxes 1 and 2.	3 ▶	\$	<input type="text"/>	.	<input type="text"/>
If your Owner's basis (Box 9 on page 36) was more than your attribution of this year's deductions (expenses), copy the difference to Box 4, otherwise print \$0.00.	4 ▶	\$	<input type="text"/>	.	<input type="text"/>
Subtract Box 4 from Box 3 (print \$0.00 if this would equal a negative value).	5 ▶	\$	<input type="text"/>	.	<input type="text"/>

Prior years' non-allowable deductions claimable this year

If there is a figure in Box 4, you will be able to claim prior years' non-allowable deductions. Enter the smaller number of Box 3 and Box 4 as prior years' non-allowable deductions claimed this year in Box 26S on your IR7L.

Non-allowable deductions carried forward

The amount in Box 5 is the non-allowable deductions to carry forward. Copy this amount into Box 26T.

Example 2

LTC loss limitation rule - current year non-allowable deductions only

The following details are for Company A which is an LTC:

IRD number	12-345-678
Total gross income	\$6,000
Expenses/deductions	\$10,000
Loss	\$4,000
One owner (shareholder):	Sam (100%)
IRD number	91-111-213
Sam's owner's basis	\$5,500.00

Note: Company A is in a partnership with another LTC.

Calculate the non-allowable deductions for Sam:

Attribution of this year's deductions (expenses)	1 ▶	\$ 10,000.00
Owner's basis (from Box 9 on page 36)	2 ▶	\$ 5,500.00
Subtract Box 2 from Box 1	3 ▶	\$ 4,500.00

Box 3 is Sam's non-allowable deductions this year. The amount in Box 3 (\$4,500) is shown at Box 26Q.

Non-allowable deductions brought forward (also show this amount in Box 26R on the IR7L).	1 ▶	\$	0.00
Non-allowable deductions this year (copy from Box 3 on previous page)	2 ▶	\$	4,500.00
Add Boxes 1 and 2	3 ▶	\$	4,500.00
Excess owner's basis (not applicable to Sam)	4 ▶	\$.
Subtract Box 4 from Box 3 (Print \$0.00 if negative).	5 ▶	\$	4,500.00

Box 5 is Sam's non-allowable deductions to carry forward. The amount in Box 5 (\$4,500) is shown at Box 26T.

Company A's IR7L would look like this:



Inland Revenue
Te Tari Taake

Look-through company
income/loss attribution

Read pages 29 to 53 of the IR7 guide before completing this form.

Complete this form and attach it to the top of page 3 of the LTC's IR7 income

Look-through company (LTC) name **COMPANY A**

IRD number (8 digit numbers start in the second box. **1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8**)

Owner's name **SAM**

IRD number **26A** **9 1 1 1 1 2 1 3** Attribution of income (see page 29 of the IR7 guide)

Attributed income/loss and tax credits

Interest – if a loss, put a minus sign in the last box **26C** \$ **26L** Deduction for interest

Dividends **26D** \$ **26M** Residential rental income

Māori authority distributions **26E** \$ **26N** Overseas tax paid

Overseas income – if a loss, put a minus sign in the last box **26F** \$ **26O** Imputation credit

Total residential income **26G** \$ **26P** Other tax credits

Other rental income – if a loss, put a minus sign in the last box **26H** \$ **26Q** Non-allowable tax credits

Other passive income – if a loss, put a minus sign in the last box **26I** \$ **26R** Non-allowable tax credits

All other income (not already included at Boxes 26C to 26I) – if a loss, put a minus sign in the last box **26J** \$ **4,000.00** - **26S** Prior years' non-allowable tax credits

Total income (sum of boxes 26C to 26J) – if a loss, put a minus sign in the last box **26K** \$ **4,000.00** - **26T** Non-allowable tax credits and 26R, or sub

le any income/loss shown at Questions 13, 14, 15, 17, 22, 23, 25 and 26.

ere. See page 25 in the guide.

nt is a loss, put a minus sign in the last box.

4,000.00 -

4,500.00

claimed this year

, .

Adjusted LTC income

19B.



\$, , 500.00

Calculate the non-allowable deductions for Linda and Marley:

		Linda	Marley
Attribution of this year's deductions (expenses)	1 ▶	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Owner's basis (from Box 9 on page 36)	2 ▶	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Subtract Box 2 from Box 1	3 ▶	\$ -2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Non-allowable deductions brought forward (also show this amount in Box 26R).	4 ▶	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Add Boxes 3 and 4. (Print \$0.00 if this would equal a negative value.)	5 ▶	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,500.00

Linda will show her income from Company C on her **Individual income tax return - IR3** at Question 19 "Did you receive any look-through company (LTC) income?" as shown below.

Linda's attribution of this year's deductions isn't limited, so she can claim her full share of the loss (\$1,000). In addition, she is now able to claim the \$500 she wasn't allowed last year, making her adjusted LTC income a \$1,500 loss.

Linda's IR3 Question 19 would look like this:

19	Did you receive any look-through company (LTC) income? Exclude
No	<input type="checkbox"/> Go to Question 20
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Print the totals here
Total LTC tax credits	
19A	\$ <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> . <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Total active LTC income - if this amount is a loss, enter as a negative number	
19B	\$ <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Non-allowable deductions this year	
19C	\$ <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Prior years' non-allowable deductions	
19D	\$ <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
<p>Either add Boxes 19B and 19C or subtract Box 19D from the sum of Boxes 19A and 19B. Print your answer in Box 19E.</p>	

le any income/loss shown at Questions 13, 14, 15, 17, 22, 23, 25 and 26.
ere. See page 25 in the guide.

nt is a loss, put a minus sign in the last box.

1,000.00 -

, .

claimed this year

,500.00

Adjusted LTC income

19B.

19E ▶

\$, 1,500.00 -

Company C's IR7L details for Marley would look like this:

Owner's name	MARLEY										Attribution of in (see page 29 of t	
IRD number	26A ▶	3	1	3	2	3	3	3	4			
Attributed income/loss and tax credits												
Interest – if a loss, put a minus sign in the last box	26C ▶	\$										
Deduction for	26L ▶	\$										
Dividends	26D ▶	\$										
Residential ren	26M ▶	\$										
Māori authority distributions	26E ▶	\$										
Overseas tax p	26N ▶	\$										
Overseas income – if a loss, put a minus sign in the last box	26F ▶	\$										
Imputation cre	26O ▶	\$										
Total residential income	26G ▶	\$										
Other tax credi	26P ▶	\$										
Other rental income – if a loss, put a minus sign in the last box	26H ▶	\$										
Non-allowable	26Q ▶	\$										
Other passive income – if a loss, put a minus sign in the last box	26I ▶	\$										
Non-allowable	26R ▶	\$										
All other income (not already included at Boxes 26C to 26I) – if a loss, put a minus sign in the last box	26J ▶	\$					1	0	0	0	.	0
Prior years' nor	26S ▶	\$										
Total income (sum of boxes 26C to 26J) – if a loss, put a minus sign in the last box	26K ▶	\$					1	0	0	0	.	0
Non-allowable and 26R, or sub	26T ▶	\$										

Marley will show his income from Company C on his **Individual income tax return - IR3** at Question 19 "Did you receive any look-through company (LTC) income?".

He would also have \$1,500 non-allowable deductions to carry forward to next year.

Income/loss (see the guide)	26B ▶	50.00 %
Extinguished losses (see page 30 of the guide)		
Total deductions		
Paid		
Credits		
Losses (see page 30 of the guide)		
Deductions this year (see pages 30 to 38 of the guide)		1,000.00
Deductions bought forward		500.00
Non-allowable deductions claimed this year		
Deductions carried forward (either add Boxes 26Q or subtract Box 26S from 26R)		1,500.00

Note

For Marley, limiting the deductions has the effect of treating his share of the deductions as \$3,000. When this amount is allowed against his share of the gross income (\$3,000) the result is \$0.00, the amount of the adjusted LTC income.

le any income/loss shown at Questions 13, 14, 15, 17, 22, 23, 25 and 26.
ere. See page 25 in the guide.

nt is a loss, put a minus sign in the last box.

1, 0 0 0 . 0 0 -

1, 0 0 0 . 0 0

claimed this year

, .

Adjusted LTC income

19B. **19E** ▶ \$ 0 . 0 0

ACC levies

The amount liable for ACC levies is based on the partners' or owners' share of the partnership or LTC income derived from personal effort (ie, "active") declared in the individual partners' or owners' IR3 income tax returns.

Partners' or owners' wages

Regular salaries or wages paid by the partnership or LTC to partners or owners have already had earners' levy accounted for in PAYE withheld. ACC will invoice the partnership or LTC for other levies.

For more information

If you have any questions about ACC or levies, please go to ACC's website acc.co.nz/productslevies or contact the ACC Business Service Centre.

Phone 0800 222 776

Email business@acc.co.nz

Services you may need

Need to speak with us?

Have your IRD number ready and call us on one of these numbers.

General tax, tax credits and refunds	0800 775 247
Employer enquiries	0800 377 772
General business tax	0800 377 774
Overdue returns and payments	0800 377 771

We're open 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday, and 9am to 1pm Saturday. We record all calls.

Our self-service lines are open 7 days a week - except between 5am and 6am each day. They offer a range of automated options, especially if you're enrolled with voice ID.

Find out more at ird.govt.nz/contact-us

Privacy

Meeting your tax obligations means giving us accurate information so we can assess your tax and entitlements under the Acts we administer. We may charge penalties if you do not.

We may also exchange information about you with:

- some government agencies
- another country, if we have an information supply agreement with them, and
- Statistics New Zealand (for statistical purposes only).

You can ask for the personal information we hold about you. We'll give the information to you and correct any errors, unless we have a lawful reason not to. Find our full privacy policy at ird.govt.nz/privacy

If you have a complaint about our service

We're committed to providing you with a quality service. If there's a problem, we'd like to know about it and have the chance to fix it.

If you disagree with how we've assessed your tax, you may need to follow a formal disputes process.

Find out more about making a complaint, and the disputes process, at ird.govt.nz/disputes