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Foreign resident investments

What to do if you are a foreign resident with investments in Australia and how your investments are reported to us.

Foreign investment in Australia

What you need to do if you are a foreign person buying Australian residential or non-residential assets.

Interest, unfranked dividends and royalties

If you are a foreign resident, check the tax implications for interest, unfranked dividends, and royalties you earn.

Foreign tax resident reporting

If you are a foreign tax resident, Australian financial institutions will identify and report your accounts to us.

QC 104068

Interest, unfranked dividends and royalties

If you are a foreign resident, check the tax implications for interest, unfranked dividends, and royalties you earn.

Last updated 23 June 2025

Tax rates for foreign residents

You should advise your Australian financial institution (your payer) that you are a foreign resident so they can withhold tax in Australia at the time of payment. You won't need to declare this income in an Australian tax return. Your payer will then withhold tax at the rates shown in the table below.

Tax rates for foreign residents

Tax rate for	Treaty countries	Non-treaty countries %
Interest	Some agreements provide an exemption from withholding tax in certain circumstances.	10%
Unfranked dividends	Most agreements reduce the rate to 15%.	30%
Royalties	Most agreements reduce the rate to 10%.	30%

The full list of our tax treaties is maintained by Treasury and can be found at Income tax treaties.

Tell your Australian payer your current overseas address so they can withhold the right rate of tax. If you don't, they may withhold tax at the higher rate of 47% (from 1 July 2017).

Certificates of payment

If you need proof of payment of withholding tax to comply with the tax requirements of your own country, you can ask your payer to request a certificate of payment from us.

For more information on investment income and withholdings paid to foreign residents, see:

- Investment income and royalties paid to foreign residents

- Withholding from dividends paid to foreign residents
- Withholding from royalties paid to foreign residents.

Notice of assessment (NOA)

If you require a notice of assessment, see Your notice of assessment.

QC 33221

Foreign tax resident reporting

If you are a foreign tax resident, Australian financial institutions will identify and report your accounts to us.

Last updated 22 June 2025

What is foreign tax resident reporting?

Australia is one of many countries that has committed to new global standards on the automatic exchange of financial account information. This information is required by law to be collected by financial institutions around the world for reporting to tax authorities. Tax authorities will exchange this information to help make sure everyone pays the right amount of tax.

The Australian Government has enacted laws and entered into international agreements. This may affect you as a customer of a financial institution. These laws implement automatic exchange of information (AEOI) with:

- the United States (US) under a system known as the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) – this is for US citizens and tax residents only and applies from 1 July 2014

- other countries under the Common Reporting Standard (CRS) – the CRS applies to all foreign tax residents from 1 July 2017.

This means Australian financial institutions must identify accounts held by customers who are foreign tax residents or entities connected to foreign tax residents. They must report these accounts to us. We will then report the account information to the foreign tax authorities.

Similarly, overseas financial institutions must identify their Australian tax resident customers and report their accounts through their local tax authorities to us.

If you have an existing account

If you have an existing account, your financial institution may contact you to confirm your country or countries of tax residence. This is to establish if you have any accounts that need to be reported under the FATCA or the CRS laws.

They may also contact you if their records indicate that you could be a foreign tax resident. This might be because you have provided an address or other information for a country outside Australia.

If you open a new account

From 1 July 2017, your financial institution must ask you to certify your residence for tax purposes if you open a new account. They may ask you to provide forms and documentation. This will apply for most types of financial accounts.

If you are a foreign tax resident, you will need to provide your tax identification number (TIN) or equivalent. This is the number used to identify you to the tax authority in the foreign country. If you don't have one, you will be asked to provide a reason.

Accounts held by entities (such as companies, trusts, partnerships, associations)

From 1 July 2017, if you are opening a new account on behalf of a legal entity or arrangement (such as a trust, partnership, company or

association) your financial institution must obtain information from you about:

- the tax residence of the entity
- the nature of the entity's business
- in some circumstances, the individuals who control or beneficially own the entity or have specific connections to the entity, this includes their tax residency and their TIN or equivalent if they are a tax resident outside Australia.

Your financial institution may also contact you for this information for your existing accounts. This will help them comply with their obligations under the FATCA and the CRS laws.

What you need to do

It is important that you respond if your financial institution contacts you to request information. If you don't respond, they may have to treat you as if you are a tax resident in a country outside Australia, even if you are not.

If you intend to open a new account and don't provide the relevant details, the financial institution will not open the account for you. These requirements help ensure the AEOI laws worldwide are effective. They increase tax transparency by identifying people who have offshore accounts and investments.

False and misleading penalties may apply

You should respond truthfully and to the best of your knowledge when you state your tax residency or provide other information including your TIN to your financial institution. Penalties may apply if you deliberately or recklessly provide false or misleading information.

What happens with your information

If you are a foreign tax resident under the AEOI laws, your identity details, account balance and other information will be provided to us. We will also receive your information if you were identified as a possible foreign tax resident and you didn't respond to requests for further information. We will then send your information to the tax authority in the country of your tax residency.

If you are an Australian tax resident and you have an account in a financial institution overseas, we will receive your information from the tax authority of that jurisdiction.

All information reported under these laws is handled in the strictest confidence by the ATO and foreign tax authorities. National laws, administrative practices, and binding international treaties protect your information. This is in the same way that all taxpayer information is generally handled.

Foreign tax information

If you have some connection to a foreign country, the following may help you complete forms given to you by your financial institution:

- Tax residency
- Tax identification number
- Foreign tax authorities.

Tax residency

In considering if you are a tax resident of a country other than Australia, a useful resource is the compilation of rules governing tax residency for other countries on the OECD's Automatic Exchange Portal.

If tax residency information for a specific country isn't available, or you need more information for a country, you should contact the tax authority of that country.

Tax identification number

Tax identification number (TIN) is an international term, however some countries may use a different name. If you are a tax resident of a country other than Australia, you will be asked to provide your TIN, if you don't have a TIN or equivalent, you will be asked to provide a reason.

Foreign tax authorities

Following are the TIN equivalents and the names of tax authorities for some countries. For a more complete list of countries currently

participating in the Automatic Exchange of Information, see the OECD's Automatic Exchange Portal.

Foreign tax authorities by country

Country	TIN or equivalent for individuals	Tax authority
Brazil	Cadastro de Pessoas Físicas (CPF)	Receita Federal
Canada	Social Insurance Number (SIN)	Canada Revenue Agency
China	Tax Identification Number (TIN) or Chinese ID card number	State Administration of Taxation
Colombia	Tax Identification Number (TIN)	Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales (DIAN)
Germany	Tax identification number (TIN)	Federal Central Tax Office
Hong Kong	Hong Kong Identity Card (HKID) number	Inland Revenue Department
India	Permanent Account Number (PAN)	Income Tax Department
Indonesia	Nomor Pokok Wajib Pajak (NPWP)	Direktorat Jenderal Pajak
Ireland	Personal Public Service Number (PPS No)	Irish Tax and Customs
Japan	Individual Number	National Tax Agency
Malaysia	Tax Identification Number (TIN) or	Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia

	Nombor Pengenalan Cukai.	
New Zealand	IRD number	Inland Revenue
Pakistan	National Tax Number	Federal Board of Revenue
Singapore	Tax Reference Number	Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore
South Africa	Tax reference number	South African Revenue Service
South Korea	Resident Registration Number	National Tax Service
UK	National Insurance Number (NINO) or unique taxpayer reference (UTR)	His Majesty's Revenue and Customs
United States of America	Social Security Number (SSN), Employer Identification Number (EIN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)	Internal Revenue Service

Disclaimer

This information is to help you understand your and your financial institution’s obligations under the AEOI laws. It doesn't constitute a ruling or binding legal advice. If you have questions about your tax residence status, you should contact the ATO or the tax authority of your country of residence, as applicable, or seek advice from a tax agent or advisor.

Our commitment to you

We are committed to providing you with accurate, consistent and clear information to help you understand your rights and entitlements and meet your obligations.

If you follow our information and it turns out to be incorrect, or it is misleading and you make a mistake as a result, we will take that into account when determining what action, if any, we should take.

Some of the information on this website applies to a specific financial year. This is clearly marked. Make sure you have the information for the right year before making decisions based on that information.

If you feel that our information does not fully cover your circumstances, or you are unsure how it applies to you, contact us or seek professional advice.

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