



INVESTNOW

INVESTOR TAX GUIDE

Updated 31.03.2025

InvestNow does not provide personalised investment or tax advice. This guide does not constitute a warranty or advice. You should seek independent professional expert advice on investments, tax, legal and accounting matters.

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GUIDE INFORMATION

Aim of guide

This guide is intended to provide general information on aspects of New Zealand's tax legislation which are relevant to investors using the InvestNow platform. This guide also explains how to use InvestNow Tax Summary Reports to prepare an income tax return (IR3), if required.

For simplicity, this guide has been prepared in relation to InvestNow investors with individual or joint accounts who are New Zealand tax residents*. We recommend that non-resident, trust, company and other investors seek independent tax advice.

The IRD provides a [guide](#) to completing your tax return. Please note, individual circumstances may differ, and tax situations may change if additional investments are held outside of InvestNow's custody. InvestNow does not provide independent tax advice, and we recommend seeking professional tax advice to ensure individual tax obligations are met.

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* Different rules may apply to new migrants who are transitional residents for income tax purposes. Therefore, we recommend new residents seek independent tax advice.

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TYPES OF INVESTMENT OPTIONS OFFERED BY INVESTNOW

For tax purposes, there are three types of funds available on InvestNow (along with term deposits):

Unlisted multi-rate Portfolio Investment Entities (PIEs)

Most funds available on InvestNow are PIEs, including all funds on the InvestNow KiwiSaver Scheme. When you invest in an unlisted PIE, InvestNow will pay tax on income attributed to you by the PIE during the tax year, at your nominated Prescribed Investor Rate (PIR), less any attributed tax credits. Provided that tax has been deducted at the correct PIR, this is a final tax (note that the situation may differ for trusts or companies). Distributions (dividends) paid by unlisted PIEs are excluded income and do not need to be included in your tax return.

PIE tax is deducted either when you sell units in a PIE fund, or after March 31 each year – if you do not have enough cash in your InvestNow account, we will sell units in your largest holding to cover it. If the amount of PIE tax credits attributed to you is higher than the tax amount, you will receive a PIE tax refund. A PIE Tax Certificate will be made available for you to download from the My Documents page in the InvestNow portal in May.

Our sub-custodian, Adminis Custodial Nominees Ltd, sends details of your PIE attributed income and PIE tax to the IRD each year. You will find this when you log into your MyIR portal, under “Adminis Custodial Nominees Limited”. If you have both a managed funds and InvestNow KiwiSaver Scheme account, you will see two separate PIE income amounts.

The IRD will use this information to pre-populate your income tax return and will check that tax has been deducted at your correct PIR – if not, the underpayment or overpayment will be included in your income tax summary. For joint accounts where we hold IRD numbers for both members, the IRD will automatically split the income equally between each member. This split can be manually adjusted in MyIR.

Listed Portfolio Investment Entities (PIEs)

Listed PIEs on InvestNow are the Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) offered by Smart. During the year you may have received dividends from these funds. The dividends may include tax credits known as imputation credits, which are credits for NZ tax already paid by the companies the ETF is invested in, to ensure that the income isn’t taxed twice. While you are not required to include Listed PIE dividends and related imputation credits in your income tax return, you can include the

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taxable (imputed) portion if you prefer. Including the dividends may be beneficial if your income tax rate is less than 28%, as this will result in excess imputation credits that can be used to reduce the tax payable on your other income.

Australian Unit Trusts (AUTs)

Australian Unit Trusts on InvestNow include select funds offered by Vanguard, Ellerstun, Dexu, and India Avenue. Income from these funds is subject to the Foreign Investment Fund (FIF) rules if you are not a de minimis investor, and the related FIF income must be included in your tax return. If you are a de minimis investor, the distributions you receive from these funds should be included in your tax return.

Term Deposits

Any Resident Withholding Tax (RWT) that is deducted for your term deposit investments will be reported to the IRD. You will only pay RWT when you receive interest from your Term Deposit.

FOREIGN INVESTMENT FUND (FIF) RULES EXPLAINED

De minimis exception from FIF rules

InvestNow has not deducted Resident Withholding Tax (RWT) from any dividend income received from an AUT on the assumption that the FIF rules apply to you as an investor. However, individuals can choose not to apply the FIF rules if the de minimis exception applies. This exception applies if the total cost of your FIF investments did not exceed NZ\$50,000 at any point during the income year. The total cost of your FIF investments represents all your applications and any dividend reinvestment.

If the de minimis exception applies, most investors need to pay tax on the value of the distributions received from their FIF investments. Alternatively, if the de minimis exception applies, you can choose to calculate your income using the FIF rules instead - however, if you elect to do this, you must apply the FIF rules for the next four years.

For joint investors, the cost basis can be split between both parties, so the threshold is effectively NZ\$100,000 if all of your FIF investments are held jointly. In this scenario, the income should be split equally and reported on both of your tax returns.

If the de minimis exception applies and you purchased units in an AUT “for the dominant purpose of disposal” or you have “a share dealing business or the shares are part of a profit-making undertaking or scheme”, the gains from any sales may also be taxable. You can refer to the Inland Revenue fact sheet [IS 24/10 FS 2](#) for more details.

FIF calculations

If you held units in any AUT during the income year, FIF calculations will be included in your Tax Summary Report. There are two calculation methods for which we report information:

- Fair Dividend Rate (FDR) – 5% of the opening market value at the beginning of the income year, plus a quick sale adjustment if you bought and then subsequently sold units in the same fund during the year.
- Comparative Value (CV) – Closing value plus gains, minus opening value plus costs. Gains include dividends, sale proceeds and tax credits. Costs include the cost of buying units, along with foreign income tax paid by you directly on income of the FIF (i.e. this would not ordinarily include withholding taxes).

Individual or joint investors can choose which of these calculation methods to use. We provide both calculations so that you can choose which method is more beneficial for you. You must use the same calculation method for all of your FIF investments. Also, you cannot claim a FIF loss in relation to any of the AUTs held on InvestNow. InvestNow's tax reports convert foreign currency amounts based on the exchange rate as of the day of the transaction. If you use, or have previously used, a different methodology in relation to your FIF investments, we recommend seeking independent tax advice on the approach required.

Foreign tax credits

Australian withholding tax may have been deducted on dividends received from your AUT holdings. You may be able to claim this as a credit against your New Zealand income tax liability; however certain limits apply. The credit available in relation to tax withheld from a specific fund cannot exceed your New Zealand tax liability on that fund for the relevant year – if you did not receive any FIF income from a particular fund, you will not be able to claim the foreign tax credit.

Due to the way New Zealand's income tax legislation operates, it is not possible for InvestNow to determine the total foreign tax credit (if any) available to you without access to information on all of your income and expenses. Therefore, our tax reports specify the total foreign tax withheld.

If you have any questions regarding your ability to claim a foreign tax credit, we recommend you refer to Inland Revenue's ["Guide to foreign investment funds - IR461"](#) or contact your tax advisor.

INVESTNOW TAX REPORT

Understanding your InvestNow Tax Summary Report

Your Tax Summary Report is produced as an Excel spreadsheet with several tabs. The report can be downloaded from the 'My Documents' page in your InvestNow account.

Summary

The Summary tab shows the totals of the different types of income you have received, including:

	A	B	C	D
1				
2		Taxable Income Summary		
3		Anonymous Investor		
4		For the period: 1 Apr 2019 - 31 Mar 2020		
5		Report created: 22 May 2020		
6				
7				
8				
9		Income		
10				
11		Interest		
12		Coupons, Domestic	8,498.19	NZD
13		Accrued Interest	(2,791.38)	NZD
14				
15		Dividends - FIF		
16		Equity, Offshore	1,972.16	NZD
17				
18		Dividends - Listed PIE		
19		Excluded Income	604.16	NZD
20				
21		FIF Income		
22		FIF - FDR Method	4,981.89	NZD
23		FIF - CV Method	(2,545.17)	NZD
24				
25				
26		Tax Credits		
27				
28		Foreign Tax Credit		
29		Dividends - FIF	5.11	NZD
30				
31		RWT		
32		Coupons - Non FIF	2,804.40	NZD
33				
34				
35				
36				

- Interest from term deposits (coupons)
- FIF dividends
- Listed PIE dividends
- FIF income according to both the FDR and CV calculation methods
- Taxable income from unlisted PIEs
- Unrealised currency gains

Under 'Tax Credits' it shows the amount of foreign tax withheld on AUT dividends, RWT withheld on term deposit interest and imputation credits on Listed PIE dividends.

Income (All)

The Income tab shows a list of all the interest, dividends and distributions received over the year, separated by fund type (Coupons, PIE, Listed PIE and FIF) with subtotals next to each fund type. The gross income and the tax credits are shown for each dividend. Note that the tax treatment of the amount doesn't depend on whether or not your dividends were reinvested.

Coupons

Description	Income	RWT	NRWT	AIL	FTC	Imputation	Franking
Domestic	8,498.19	2,804.40	-	-	-	-	-
BNZ TD 3.27% 15 Apr 2019	815.26	269.04	-	-	-	-	-
BNZ TD 3.270% 07 Aug 2019	1,621.56	535.11	-	-	-	-	-
BNZ TD 3.280% 01 Aug 2019	1,626.52	536.75	-	-	-	-	-
BNZ TD 3.420% 29 Oct 2019	2,814.30	928.72	-	-	-	-	-
SBS Bank TD 3.250% 12 Aug 2019	1,620.55	534.78	-	-	-	-	-

Dividends - PIE Fund

Description	Income	RWT	NRWT	AIL	FTC	Imputation	Franking
Equity, Domestic	1,888.96	-	-	-	-	-	-
AMP Capital Global Property Securities Fund	487.43	-	-	-	-	-	-
Devon Alpha Fund	74.77	-	-	-	-	-	-
Devon Dividend Yield Fund	507.83	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harbour NZ Core Fixed Interest Fund	112.39	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harbour NZ Corporate Bond Fund	469.64	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nikko AM Income Fund	223.10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nikko AM NZ Cash Fund	13.80	-	-	-	-	-	-

Dividends - Listed PIE

Description	Excluded	Imputed	RWT	NRWT	AIL	FTC	Imputation	Franking
Smartshares - NZ Mid Cap Fund (NS) (MDZ)	604.16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smartshares - NZ Mid Cap Fund (NS) (MDZ)	604.16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Dividends - FIF

Description	Income	RWT	NRWT	AIL	FTC	Imputation	Franking
Equity, Offshore	1,972.16	-	-	-	5.11	-	-
Russell Emerging Markets Fund Class B	85.18	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vanguard International Shares Select Exclusions Index Fund	1,886.98	-	-	-	5.11	-	-

Income (Custody)

This tab shows non-PIE income (you will not need to refer to it when preparing your tax return).

FIF Income

This tab shows the workings for the two FIF income calculations (FDR and CV), side by side, for each of the AUT funds that you invest in. You can refer to this tab if you need to check how much FIF income comes from a particular fund.

CV Method						
Security	Open Value	Acquisitions	Disposals	Gross Income	Close Value	CV Income
Russell Emerging Markets Fund Class B	-	10,000.00	-	-	9,757.60	(242.40)
Vanguard International Shares Select Exclusions Index Fund	-	19,101.92	-	390.18	20,324.47	1,612.73
Vanguard Intl Shares Select Exclusions Index Fund - NZD	-	25,429.35	-	429.35	26,993.19	1,993.19
Russell Global Opportunities Fund \$NZ Hedged B	2,067.96	497.32	-	497.32	2,333.42	265.46
					Total	3,628.98

FDR Method										
Holdings	Acquisitions			Quick Sale Disposals		Peak Holding	Actual	Quick Sale	Open Value	FDR Income
Open	Peak	Close	Avg Cost	Total	Vol	Adjustment	Gain	Adjustment	x 5%	
-	6,823	6,823	1.47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	16,822	16,822	1.14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	23,200	23,200	1.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,337	1,740	1,740	1.24	-	-	-	-	-	103.40	103.40
									Total	103.40

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FIF Activity

You can check this tab if you need more detail about your transactions for a FIF fund or if you want to check the figures used in the FIF calculations. It shows the amounts, prices, dates and applicable FX rate for all of your FIF transactions during the year.

Russell Emerging Markets Fund Class B							
Date	Journal	Action	Description	Qty	Currency	Amount	NZD Amount
31 Mar 2017			Opening Values	-			
21 Nov 2017	573656	Application Trade	Buy 6,822.57 Russell Emerging Markets Fund Class B at 1.3206	6,823	AUD	9,009.89	10,000.0
31 Mar 2018			Closing Values	6,823			9,757.6
Russell Global Opportunities Fund \$NZ Hedged B							
Date	Journal	Action	Description	Qty	Currency	Amount	NZD Amount
31 Mar 2017			Opening Values	1,337			2,667.9
30 Jun 2017	432320	Dividend Payment	Russell Global Opportunities Fund \$NZ Hedged B : 30 Jun dividend payment	-	AUD	(471.82)	(495.1)
30 Jun 2017	432321	Equity Trade	Buy 400.7 Russell Global Opportunities Fund \$NZ Hedged B at 1.1775	401	AUD	471.82	495.1
29 Mar 2018	758262	Dividend	Russell Global Opportunities Fund \$NZ Hedged B : Mar dividend accrual	-	AUD	(2.00)	(2.1)
29 Mar 2018	758265	Dividend Reinvestment	Reinvest Russell Global Opportunities Fund \$NZ Hedged B net distribution	2	AUD	2.00	2.1
31 Mar 2018			Closing Values	1,740			2,333.4
Vanguard International Shares Select Exclusions Index Fund							
Date	Journal	Action	Description	Qty	Currency	Amount	NZD Amount
31 Mar 2017			Opening Values	-			
19 Apr 2017	379159	Application Trade	Buy 4,953.13 Vanguard International Shares Select Exclusions Fund at 1.0339	4,953	AUD	5,121.04	5,500.0
19 Jun 2017	417184	Application Trade	Buy 3,920.77 Vanguard International Shares Select Exclusions Fund at 1.084	3,921	AUD	4,250.11	4,461.7
3 Jul 2017	428363	Dividend Payment	Vanguard International Shares Select Exclusions Fund: Jul dividend payment	-	AUD	(88.61)	(93.1)
3 Jul 2017	428364	Equity Trade	Buy 84.14 Vanguard International Shares Select Exclusions Fund at 1.0531	84	AUD	88.61	93.1
18 Jul 2017	436347	Application Trade	Buy 4,363.33 Vanguard International Shares Select Exclusions Fund at 1.0378	4,363	AUD	4,438.63	4,765.0

Unrealised Gains

If you held AUD on 31 March 2025, any unrealised gains or losses due to foreign exchange movements would be shown in this tab. The tax treatment of foreign exchange gains/losses is complex and we recommend you seek advice on your personal circumstances to confirm whether such gains/losses are required to be included in your IR3.

Tax Credits

A list of tax credits received from FIF dividends and Listed PIE dividends during the year.

INVESTNOW TAX REPORT: IR3 TAX RETURN USE

Listed PIE Income

You don't have to include listed PIE income in your tax return, but may choose to do so, if you wish. Generally, investors would only elect to include income if their tax rate is less than 28%, as this allows the excess imputation credits to be offset against their other tax liabilities.

Some Listed PIE dividends may include an "excluded amount", which is not taxed. This amount does not need to be included in your tax return and will not appear in your tax summary report.

If you do want to include the information in your tax return you will need to enter the following in the New Zealand Dividends section:

Tax Summary Report – Summary Tab	IR3 Income – Tax Return
Income – Dividends – Listed PIE, Imputed Income	Total gross dividends
Income – Dividends – Listed PIE, Imputed – Imputation Credits	Total dividend imputation credits

New Zealand dividends

Total gross dividends

Total dividend RWT/payments for foreign dividends

Total dividend imputation credits

Dividends from a partnership, LTC, trust and/or estate

Yes
No

FIF – de minimis exception applies

If the de minimis exception applies (i.e. your FIF investments cost less than NZ\$50,000 at all times during the year), you can choose to pay tax on the distributions you received from your AUT holdings, instead of the income calculated under the FIF rules (assuming that you have not applied the FIF rules in any of the four prior years).

You will select "Dividends" as the Income Type and Australia for the Jurisdiction when entering the information in your tax return.

Tax Summary Report – Summary Tab	IR3 Income – Tax Return
Dividends – FIF – Equity, offshore	Gross Amount
Tax credits – Foreign Tax Credit, Dividends – FIF	Tax credit*

- * In some cases, your ability to claim a foreign tax credit may be restricted, and therefore you may not be able to include the full amount in your return. In particular, the credit available in relation to a specific fund cannot exceed your New Zealand tax liability on that fund.

FIF – FIF rules apply

You will select “FIF Income” as the Income Type and Australia for the Jurisdiction. You will select either the FDR or CV calculation

Tax Summary Report – Summary Tab	IR3 Income – Tax Return
Income – FIF Income, FIF – FDR method	Put either figure that you have selected in the Gross Amount section*
Income – FIF Income, FIF – CV method	
Tax Credits – Foreign Tax Credit, Dividends - FIF	Tax credit**

- * This figure cannot be less than zero.

- ** In some cases, your ability to claim a foreign tax credit may be restricted, and therefore you may not be able to include the full amount in your return. In particular, the credit available in relation to a specific fund cannot exceed your New Zealand tax liability on that fund.

Overseas income

The allowable overseas tax credit is calculated automatically based on your total income.

Note:

- The gross income or tax credit amounts must be completed for each line.
- You can not enter multiple rows with the same Jurisdiction and income type.
- If you add or remove income on this step and the previous step, the amount may change.

Income type *	Jurisdiction *	Gross amount	Tax credit	Allowable overseas tax credit
Required	Required	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

+ Add a record

Total overseas income
\$0.00

Total overseas tax paid
\$0.00

Term Deposits

Any Resident Withholding Tax (RWT) that is deducted for your term deposit investments will be reported to the IRD. You will only pay RWT when you receive interest from your Term Deposit. If you do need to manually enter in any figures, below you can enter this information in the “Interest Income” section of your tax return.

Tax Summary Report – Summary Tab	IR3 Income – Tax Return
Interest – Coupons, Domestic	Total gross interest section
Tax Credits – RWT, Coupons – Non FIF	Total RWT section

CONTACT US

If you're still unsure about your tax obligations or how to complete your IR3 tax return form, give us a call and we can point you in the right direction. Alternatively, it is recommended that you seek independent tax advice.

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