

BUSINESS TAX UPDATE

Inland Revenue's tax news for businesses



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REMINDERS

We have several calendars you can use to plan ahead to help you meet your obligations. Remember that if a due date falls on a weekend or public holiday, we can receive your return and payment on the next working day without a penalty being applied.

If you have any suggestions for topics you'd like covered in this newsletter, Email BusinessTax.Update@ird.govt.nz

Payday filing is here for all employers

Time is running out to begin payday filing before 1 April 2019. Get an early start and switch in March. Remember, the law has changed so you must change to payday filing by 1 April 2019.

Check out www.ird.govt.nz/payday for information and help, such as printable guides and how-to videos to help you get started and make the switch before 1 April.

IR file will be discontinued

The ir-File service in myIR will be discontinued on 11 March 2019. If you're still filing monthly schedules you must use the 'payroll returns' account in myIR to file your EMS and employer deductions. The payroll returns account will automatically show in your myIR account from 28 February 2019.

Changes to myIR in April – some services will be unavailable

So that we can make important changes to myIR some of our key services will be unavailable in mid-April. During this time, you will not be able to access myIR Secure Online Services or contact us through our contact centres.

We will provide more details next month.

Employment Relations Amendment Act 2018

The Employment Relations Amendment Act 2018 has introduced employment law changes.

Key changes include:

- reinstating prescribed meal and rest breaks
- strengthening collective bargaining and union rights
- restoring protections for vulnerable workers, such as those in the cleaning and catering industries, regardless of the size of their employer
- limiting 90-day trials to business with fewer than 20 employees.

The first changes took effect on 12 December 2018. The second set of changes comes into effect on 6 May 2019.

To avoid breaching employment law all employers should familiarise themselves with the changes. Breaches of employment law can lead to fines up to \$50,000 for a company.

Find out more about the full extent of the changes of employment law at www.employment.govt.nz (search keywords: Employment Relations Amendment).

Guarding against phishing

The most common methods fraudsters use to collect personal information are email and phone scams. Inland Revenue investigates and acts on reports of phishing. We post new attempts on our website www.ird.govt.nz (search keywords: scam phishing).

If you've clicked on any email links or submitted personal data, we recommend you contact your bank and IDcare at www.idcare.org or phone on 0800 201 415.

How do you spot a phishing scam?

Here are some pointers to watch out for:

- Our emails will never say Inland Revenue Department or IRD.
- We will never ask you for your bank account or credit card details.
- We won't send you an email saying you have a refund.

Finding our newsletters

If you'd like to read back copies of the *Business Tax Update* and other Inland Revenue newsletters, you can find them at www.ird.govt.nz (search keywords: newsletters). Or, you can go to the 'About us' section of our website at the top left-hand side of the front page.

