

*We understand that tax isn't the first thing on your mind. But please contact us with any concerns or questions about tax or income levels, so we can make arrangements to help*



## Working together

*Tax relief and income assistance is available to those affected by extreme weather (storms, floods, droughts etc). We have a range of measures to help, depending on personal circumstances.*

### Income equalisation scheme

Farmers who have money deposited in this scheme may be able to make an early withdrawal, or deposit funds from forced sale of livestock.

### Late election of provisional tax estimates

A person may be able to make a late estimate or re-estimate of provisional tax, if their circumstances have changed due to extreme weather. We can arrange early refunds if provisional tax has been overpaid.

### Outstanding tax

We'll consider instalments for outstanding tax in some circumstances.

You can apply for a write-off due to serious hardship when you know you won't be able to pay the full amount.

**Note:** If we grant relief from payment due to hardship and you have losses to carry forward, these losses will be reduced in proportion to the amount written off.

### Late filing and late payment

Extensions for some income tax returns may be available. Extensions can't be granted for GST and PAYE returns, but any penalties for late filing may be waived. Penalties for late payments caused by effects of the weather may also be waived.

### Certificate of exemption

If you're currently involved in contract work where schedular payments are to be deducted (eg, shearing or other agricultural contract work), you may be entitled to a certificate of exemption.

### Special tax codes

You may be entitled to a special tax code if you're receiving a salary or wage and have a loss to carry forward. A certificate will be issued to you with a reduced tax rate.

### Working for families tax credits

Working for families tax credits entitlements are based on a person's yearly family income. If you're family income changes, your entitlement will change.

If your yearly family income decreases you may be entitled to increased payments. You may be able to change the frequency/date of your payments.

### Paid parental leave

**Eligibility:** You'll need to have worked an average of 10 hours per week over six or 12 months before the birth of the child.

**Entitlement:** Go to our website, [www.ird.govt.nz](http://www.ird.govt.nz) for the current entitlement rates.

### Child support

If you have trouble making child support payments by due dates you should call **0800 221 221**. It may be appropriate to re-estimate your income and reduce the assessment.

### Other tax measures that could help

These include:

- deductions can be made for farm losses when certain improvements are destroyed or irreparably damaged
- livestock or materials donated because of an adverse event may be treated as zero-value rated.
- payments or donations from charities aren't taxable or liable for GST
- tax treatment of insurance payments depends on what the payment is compensating, eg insurance for loss of capital assets is non-taxable, but income-replacement insurance may be taxed
- interest on money borrowed to keep the farm going may be deductible.
- Eligibility for Independent earner tax credit

