

This helpsheet is for you to use and keep

Please do not give or send it to your bank, building society or your HM Revenue & Customs office.

Almost everyone who lives in the UK is allowed to earn or receive income of at least £193 each week before tax has to be paid. If your income is below this limit and you have money in a bank or building society account which earns interest, you may be paying tax when you don't have to.

To find out if this applies to you (or to an account you look after for someone else), please read this helpsheet and answer the questions.

If you do not live in the UK all the time, different rules may apply to you. Please phone the helpline on **0300 200 3312** to find out more.

Children under 18

Children get tax-free income too. But if money given by a parent produces interest of more than £100 a year, the interest will be treated as the income of the parent that gave them the money.

This rule does not apply to money given by others, including grandparents. For more information go to www.hmrc.gov.uk/childincome or phone the helpline on **0300 200 3312**.

Looking after an account for someone else

If you look after an account for someone, perhaps a child under 16 or someone who can't manage their own money themselves, use their details (including their address) when you fill in form R85. For more information, read the declaration on form R85 'Getting your interest without tax taken off'.

Paid too much tax in the past

If you've paid tax on your interest in the past, but now think you should not have done, phone us on **0300 200 3313**. You have up to 4 years after the end of each tax year to claim tax back by using form R40. For a copy of the form, go to www.hmrc.gov.uk/r40 or you can phone **0300 200 3313**. For example, if you want to claim tax back for the tax year 2010-11 you have until 5 April 2015 to claim it back.

Work out your annual income

If you are not sure what counts as income, please go to our website www.hmrc.gov.uk/taxable-income or phone our helpline on **0300 200 3312**.

If you are not sure whether income from your National Savings and Investments (NS&I) should be included, please go to the NS&I website at www.nsandi.com or phone the helpline on **0300 200 3312**.

State Pension – your weekly entitlement x 52 (amount before tax taken off)

Do not include any pension credit or any State Pension lump sum

£ .

Other pensions, for example, from a previous employer (amount before tax taken off)

£ .

Pay from employment or profits from working for yourself (amount before tax taken off)

£ .

Jobseeker's Allowance and taxable Incapacity Benefit

Do not include any Working Tax Credit or Child Tax Credit or any payment of social security benefits such as Child Benefit or Attendance Allowance

£ .

Interest from banks and building societies – include the amount before tax was taken off. This is the gross amount of interest. Do not include ISA interest.

If you have a joint account, only include your share

£ .

Other taxable income – include company dividends

Do not include Student Loans

£ .

Total annual income

Enter your total income in box 1

Box 1 £ .

Now, work out your tax-free allowance

Date of birth	Annual allowance	Weekly allowance
On or after 6 April 1948	£10,000	£193
From 6 April 1938 to 5 April 1948	£10,500	£202
Before 6 April 1938	£10,660	£205

Your annual allowance

From the table above, enter the annual allowance that applies to you in box 2

Box 2 £ .

Married Couple's Allowance

Were you or the person you are married to or in a civil partnership with, born before 6 April 1935?

If neither of you were born before this date, you are not entitled to Married Couple's Allowance and you should move on to box 4.

If one of you was born before this date and:

- you are a married man who married before 5 December 2005
 - you are the spouse or civil partner with the higher income and you married or formed a civil partnership on or after 5 December 2005
- you may be entitled to Married Couple's Allowance and you should, for the purpose of completing this form only, enter £5523 in box 3

Box 3 £ .

This is an approximate figure that will help you to decide whether you need to fill in form R85. Later, if you need to make a Self Assessment return or if you make a claim for repayment of tax, we will need to work out your exact tax.

Blind Person's Allowance

Are you registered blind with your local authority or completing this form for someone who is registered? If yes, enter £2230 in box 4

Box 4 £ .

If you live in Scotland or Northern Ireland, your local authority may not keep a register. If this applies to you, please phone the helpline on **0300 200 3301**.

Total tax-free allowances

Add together the amounts in boxes 2, 3 and 4 then enter the total in box 5

Box 5 £ .

Getting your interest without tax taken off

Is the figure in box 1 on page 1 less than the figure in box 5 above?

No If No, please do not fill in form R85 as you are not eligible to receive interest in this way.

Yes If Yes, please fill in form R85 and give it to your bank or building society. You will then receive your interest without tax being taken off.

Form R85 'Getting your interest without tax taken off'

If you've worked out that your annual income is lower than your tax-free allowances you should fill in form R85 for each bank and building society where you have accounts.

If your income is above your tax-free allowance, do not fill in form R85 for any of your accounts.

By filling in form R85 you are telling your bank and/or building society that you do not have to pay tax.

Important - If your income goes up and that means that you should start paying tax, you must tell each bank and building society with whom you have an account. It is not their responsibility to check that the information you have given on form R85 is true or up-to-date. We may check the information you have given. If you open a new account you will need to complete another form R85.

If your bank or building society has already taken tax off your interest in this tax year 2014-15 (which runs from 6 April 2014 to 5 April 2015) they may be able to repay it to you.

More information

If you need help or more information about getting interest without tax taken off, phone the helpline on **0300 200 3312**. Typetalk is available using prefix number **18001**.

We have a range of services for disabled people. These include guidance in Braille, audio and large print. Most of our forms are also available in large print. Please contact our helplines for more information.