

Student Tax File Number (TFN)

The Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program ceased to exist in December 2014. This means that School TFN forms are no longer applied for and processed through any school.

If your child is turning 16

If your child is 16 or over they need to apply for a TFN. In the financial year following turning 16 the ATO starts to charge interest on any personal bank account, they will waive this on students if they have a TFN. Even if students are not working they need the TFN to avoid paying interest.

How students can apply for a TFN

The Australian Taxation Office, in partnership with Australia Post, is making it easier for students to apply for a TFN. Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on applying online can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for 'QC27248'. Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form 'Tax File Number - Application or Enquiry for Individuals' form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for 'QC22604'.

The ATO will continue working with teachers to educate students about tax and superannuation. The curriculum resource 'Tax, Super and You' is a free, easy to use, online educational resource aligned to the school curriculum of each state and territory. This resource can be accessed at taxsuperandyou.gov.au.

If you require any further information you can phone 1300 130 282 between 8.00 am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday.



Australian Government
Australian Taxation Office