

TAX FILE NUMBER ALGORITHM

The algorithm is provided by the [Australian Taxation Office](#) on the basis that it is only to be used for the purposes of validating [tax file number TFNs](#) quoted to you or your clients. Further, it is provided on the clear understanding that it is confidential information and you are to treat it as such. You are to keep the algorithm confidential and not to disclose it to anyone else without the express consent in writing from the Commissioner of Taxation. You are not to copy or reduce the algorithm to writing.

You are to restrict access to the algorithm to such of your personnel who have a need to know the algorithm for the purposes of your bona fide business operations. You are to ensure that these personnel are aware of the confidentiality and limited permitted use of the algorithm.

A list of unallocated nine digit tax file numbers has also been included for use as test data. Each of these numbers should be found to be valid when checked against the algorithm.

Programs using the algorithm should notify the payer the tax file number supplied by the payee might be invalid if it fails the algorithm test. A new tax file number may be supplied and entered.

[Refer to the relevant web service specifications and guidance material for more information on how to manage tax file numbers that fail the algorithm test](#)~~The program must allow the payer to input the invalid tax file number if the payee insists the tax file number supplied is correct.~~

Should you have any queries relating to the algorithm please [ask a question via Online services for DSPs](#). Alternatively, you can contact the [Digital Software Industry Partnership Office](#) on 1300 139 052 or email DSIPO@ato.gov.au.