

Tax Credits Ltd stopped from being a tax repayment agent

Tax Credits Ltd (TCL) has been stopped from trading as a tax repayment agent for serious anti-money laundering breaches, making it a criminal offence for them to continue trading in this capacity.

We found that TCL had committed breaches of the Money Laundering Regulations (MLR), which are predominately designed to prevent businesses being exploited by criminals to launder money.

We will directly refund around 11,000 TCL clients whose claims had been paused during our investigations into TCL.

We will contact all affected customers by the end of March to explain their refund, and refunds will be made automatically.

Budget Payment Plan available for Self Assessment customers

Self Assessment customers whose payments and returns are up to date have the option to start a Budget Payment Plan.

This allows them to make regular advance payments towards their Self Assessment tax bill.

Customers can use their HMRC online account to set up a plan and pay their [Self Assessment tax bill](#) on GOV.UK. They can decide the weekly or monthly amount they want us to collect, choose to amend their payment amounts and suspend payments for up to six months as well as cancelling the plan at any time.

The Budget Payment Plan does not mean customers can delay payment beyond the due date. They will need to ensure that any balance still owed after subtracting their budget payment plan payments is paid off by the due date to avoid penalties or interest.

Making regular payments reduces what your clients and members will have to pay on 31 January and 31 July deadline.

Apprentices can use the HMRC App to support their applications

Following on from the success of [National Apprenticeship Week](#) earlier this month, we know many people will be looking to launch a new career or apply for their first job.

We want to play our part in helping make applying for an apprenticeship quick and easy. We know that one of the causes of delay for people has been the need to access their National Insurance number to complete their applications. This previously involved asking us to send it by post which could take up to 15 days. In response, we have now made this available instantly through the HMRC App, meaning they will be able to complete their applications and start their new career faster.

The app is available to download through the [App Store for iOS](#) and [Google Play Store for Android](#).

Please share this information with your clients and members to help support apprentices with their applications.

Marriage Allowance – couples could save up to £252 a year on their tax bill

Married couples and those in civil partnerships could save up to £252 a year on their tax bill and we want to make sure that they are aware of this benefit.

To benefit from Marriage Allowance, the following must apply:

- you're married or in a civil partnership
- you do not pay Income Tax, or your income is below your Personal Allowance (usually £12,570)
- your partner pays Income Tax at the basic rate

They can [apply for Marriage Allowance](#) on GOV.UK and use our free online calculator to find out how much tax they could save.