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Department for Work & Pensions Procedures + ATNIC Summary

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## **ATNIC Summary**

The purpose of this summary is to provide a high level overview of the use of the automated tax and National insurance calculator (ATNIC). The process will be carried out by the owning caseworkers.

ATNIC is a tool used to calculate either:

- A self employed client's weekly income, as at the maintenance calculation effective date
- An employed client's tax allowances and tax rates at the current effective date, to be used when the paying parent only has access to a gross income figure

From 6 April 2017 - for the 2016/18 tax year and onwards, the Scottish Parliament will set rates of Income Tax, new bands and thresholds at which they are paid for the non-savings and non-dividend income of Scottish tax payers. There is a Scottish ATNIC to calculate Notional Tax and National Insurance Contributions for employed and self employed clients based in Scotland. Refer to Calculation Tools for further information on calculating employed and self-employed clients income.

This action is completed by caseworkers within application and assessment teams.

The gross figure to be used for the self employed client's income is either provided by the client on a self assessment form or from their accountant.

Income figures for an employed client can be acquired from the employer, from the paying parent or by using annual survey of hours and earnings (ASHE) information, with the paying parent's permission.

Information can also be obtained from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC). This is done using form CSA721, but this is as a last resort if neither of the first two options have been successful.

Once the client's chargeable income figure has been entered, the calculator instantly calculates the weekly deductions for tax and National Insurance (NI) using the appropriate tax allowances and NI rates. The weekly net income figure is also shown. This enables a quick and reliable method of calculation to aid the ongoing processing of the case. Only employment (earned) income should be used when calculating the weekly income, and the protected earnings proportion (PEP) will be based on this figure.

 $\swarrow$  Care should be taken to ensure that the tax year selected is aligned with that which the effective date lies in.

This action is supported in the CS(MASC) Regs, Reg 1 (2A): Where a parent's earnings are to be estimated over a future period or the information has been established using the provisions of Acceptable evidence then caseworkers must consider deductions for income tax and national insurance contributions.

The ATNIC calculator is hosted on the Child Maintenance Group (CMG) intranet site.



The receiving parent is the parent who receives or who is expected to receive child maintenance, known as the parent with care (PWC) or person with care (PeWC) on the system and in legislation. The paying parent is the parent who pays or who is expected to pay child maintenance, known as the non resident parent (NRP) on the system and in legislation.

## Estimation Of Earnings Tool

**Terminology Changes**