

# ATO Tax & Government Audit Protection

A random ATO audit can stop you in your tracks even if you're in the clear.

Random government audits, reviews and investigations are increasing in scope every year. It could start with a BAS, Super or Workers Compensation enquiry and spread to your whole business. The cost to your business in accountancy hours could be thousands of dollars.

It's not a matter of if you will be audited, but when.

## Are you protected?

### How likely am I to get a random government audit or investigation?

Random audits and investigations aren't just carried out by the ATO. Many state and federal government agencies conduct audits covering matters such as:

- Income Tax, BAS, GST, FBT
- Capital Gains
- SMSF Compliance
- Super Guarantee
- Centrelink, Child Support
- Employment Conditions
- Work Related Expenses
- Payroll Tax, Land Tax, Stamp Duty
- Workers Compensation

### What are the costs to my business of random government audits and investigations?

If your business or individual return is subject to a random audit, review or investigation, you are responsible for the costs involved in providing the information required.

Even a simple enquiry can require hours of work by your accountant to respond effectively – even if your records are up to date and you have done nothing wrong.

If you get audited you need the best help available to minimise the risk of the investigation becoming extended, stressful and time-consuming.

In some cases, specialist accountants and lawyers could be involved and, as a result, your business could face large expenses that impact your cash flow.

### How can I protect myself and/or my business from these unexpected costs?

Tax and Government Audit Insurance allows you to cover your business for the cost of professional fees incurred in audits and reviews. It is designed to be affordable for small to medium sized businesses.

If you receive an enquiry from a government agency such as the ATO, you simply pass the enquiry or audit to your accountant and they manage the process on your behalf, dealing with relevant agencies.

You claim your accountant's fees from CGU, who reimburse you direct.

You get help when you need it the most – and your costs are covered.

### What's covered?

Initially, Tax and Government Audit Insurance covers the accounting fees involved in responding to audits and enquiries of your lodged returns including those from previous years.

It includes the cost of expert help in responding to government audits and enquiries. It can also extend to include a specialist's professional fees if a tax expert or lawyer needs to be engaged for an opinion or defence.

It caters for the broadest range of reviews including;

- Income Tax, BAS, GST, FBT
- Capital Gain
- R&D Tax Benefits and Grants
- SMSF
- Super Guarantee
- Centrelink, Child Support,
- Employment Conditions
- Work Related Expenses
- Payroll Tax, Land Tax, Stamp Duties,
- Workers Compensation
- and others

It provides 100% coverage (up to a specified limit) with no excess to pay on accountancy fees involved in an audit or enquiry.

Cover is tax deductible, underwritten by CGU Australia, and is simple to operate with your accountant managing the claim.

It's designed to cover practically every eventuality.

✓ A family-owned company received an employer obligations audit. They were ruled compliant with their PAYG withholding obligations for employees. Total accounting fees \$24,707, covered by Tax Audit Insurance.

✓ A Self-Managed Superannuation Fund received a compliance audit. ATO determination was that it was a complying Super fund. Total accounting fees \$3,864, covered by Tax Audit Insurance.

✓ A sales unit trust received a payroll tax assessment audit. SRO established that they were liable for payroll tax. Total accounting fees \$3,520, covered by Tax Audit Insurance.

✓ A finance and investment company received a Business Activity Statement audit. The activity statement was amended by the ATO. Total accounting fees \$2,772, covered by Tax Audit Insurance.

### Find out more

Take time to ensure your business is covered with Tax and Government Audit Insurance.

To take out cover now simply complete an online application – or talk to your practice representative to find out how you can be protected.