audit shield

No.1 in Tax Audit Insurance



Audit Shield is a must have for all proactive accounting firms

Since 2003 Accountancy Insurance has been providing protection for accounting firms and their clients against the significant professional costs incurred as a result of audit activity.

The Australian Taxation Office (and other federal, state and territory government agencies) are more active in conducting audits, enquiries, investigations or reviews, in response to lodged client returns.

When your client is subject to an audit, enquiry, investigation or review, you can either:

Charge your
client the real
cost of your
professional
services and time
(and possibly lose
the client).

Absorb
(or reduce)
your fees
to keep your
client.

Either way - it's a no win situation and you will need to have that awkward meeting with your client.

With Accountancy Insurance's Audit Shield there is another option:

You get to recover your time and retain your client!

Thousands of accounting firms around Australia and New Zealand have decided to act by utilising Audit Shield.

Audit Shield:

- Retrospectively covers the cost of all eligible audits, enquiries, investigations and reviews of your client's returns.
- Includes claims for queries on Payroll Tax, Workers Compensation, Self Managed Superannuation Funds (SMSFs), Income Tax, BAS/GST, FBT, Superannuation Guarantee Charge, Record Keeping and much more.
- Includes specialist fees. For example, if you need a tax expert or lawyer for an opinion or defence, this will be covered.
- Covers your clients commonly owned legal entities and directors under one single annual fee (SMSFs offered separately).
- Is tax deductible for your clients.
- Pays your claim within 14 days.
- Is underwritten by AAI Limited (trading as Vero Insurance, a subsidiary of Suncorp Ltd), a prominent Australian based insurer.
- Provides you with a dedicated Account Manager, no matter where you are. The Account Manager will come to your office and work with you to facilitate the offer, and to teach your administration team the simple process.
- Ensures there are no upfront costs and it is cash flow positive for your accounting firm.
- Is a proactive service that covers you and your clients in the event of an audit, enquiry, investigation or review.
- Avoids the 'grudge payment'. This is when an accountant bills their client for the additional work they were required to undertake.
 Fees can be substantial for clients and are never a welcomed surprise.

To learn more, contact the team on 1300 650 758 or email enquiries@accountancyinsurance.com.au

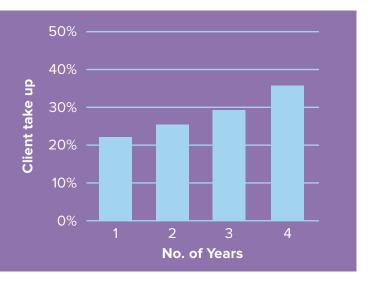
The policy is taken out by your firm but is paid for by your clients who opt-in to be covered. Therefore there is no upfront cost to you.

Offered in a proactive, yet optional manner to your clients, it indicates that you are on the look out for your client's financial wellbeing.

Clients like the idea!

Most clients are concerned about the potential costs to them should they be subject to an audit, enquiry, investigation or review by the ATO or other government authority. Audit Shield is a service that satisfies that concern. It's a service they really want! Clients are generally quite aware of audit activity occurring and understand there is nothing their accountant can do to stop it - even if the work is completed correctly. We also know that accountants are busy people, so we take care of practically all of the work involved - so you can get on with your day.

See the below chart as an example of how a typical accounting firm enjoys greater client take up for each subsequent year the service is offered to their clients.



All we need from you is the decision to offer this service to your clients and a moment of your time to explain how it works.

It is that simple!

Case Studies

Over the years the team at Accountancy Insurance have been privy to an array of situations that our Audit Shield client accounting firms have found themselves in and at no fault of their own.

BUSINESS

Type of activity: **Payroll Tax Investigation**End result: **Total fees of \$8,800 fully covered**

A Queensland client was selected for an investigation based on a query of whether or not the correct amount of payroll tax was paid and whether grouping was relevant. All queries with regards to grouping were satisfactorily responded to.

BUSINESS

Type of activity: **Employer Obligations Audit**End result: **Total fees of \$7,374 fully covered**

A client was selected due to a data matching flag where the ATO believed the employees had claimed more PAYG withholding than the employer had reported. Although the discrepancy was cleared, the client was found to have not paid the correct amount of superannuation and was assessed for \$4,083 in Superannuation Guarantee Charge.

INDIVIDUAL

Type of activity: Income Tax (CGT) Review
End result: Total fees of \$9,625 (including \$1,671 of legal fees) fully covered

A review was undertaken of a Tasmanian client for the use of CGT Small Business Concessions on a gain of approximately \$5 million reduced to \$450,000. After providing all the responses and obtaining legal advice to further validate the clients position, the outcome was that the ATO accepted the returns as lodged.

SELF MANAGED SUPERANNUATION FUND

Type of activity: **Superannuation Fund Review** End result: **Total fees of \$3,385 fully covered**

In relation to information provided in the regulatory section of the SMSF's Income Tax Return, the ATO investigated rental income and expenses and member benefit payments over a two year period. The outcome was that the rental property was appropriately owned and accounted for. The member benefit payments had appropriate conditions of release.

"We find the processes associated with implementing the Audit Shield service to be seamless and easy to maintain. The professionalism of our Account Manager makes our experience with the product both efficient and effortless. The online portal is user-friendly and simple to navigate. Claiming is easy and settled promptly. Audit Shield is a great product that gives our clients the necessary protection from unexpected audit costs."

Tim McFarlane, General Manager mta optima, Ballarat VIC

"The web application is great and user friendly. We have also found the claims process to be seamless and easy to manage. We were not surprised with the number of claims made which include a lot of BAS statements. We had a claim that went to the claims review panel; they asked a few questions and approved the claim to be paid. It was a very easy process."

Graham Spring, Director William Buck, Sydney NSW

"Audit Shield is a service that genuinely suits our clients and we have seen a very positive response from them. The Accountancy Insurance team provides an excellent, friendly service whereby they take on the administrative burden, yet we retain full control of the process. Claims are easily lodged via the online system, which also provides full tracking of client history."

Jason Bayliss, Partner
Pilot Chartered Accountants (a member of Nexia International)
Brisbane QLD

"We initially saw Audit Shield as a 'want' rather than a 'must'. However this soon changed because of the noticeable increase in ATO audit activity. For this reason, we have offered Audit Shield to our clients for the past 4 years. Our clients and our firm could not be happier with the service we receive from Accountancy Insurance. They deliver what they promise with highly efficient implementation and a claims process second to none."

Wayne Healy, Managing Director PKF Lawler, Belmont WA

"Audit Shield provides a level of comfort to our clients that is not available through other policies, which are not as broad or comprehensive. They also appreciate that by participating in our Audit Shield service, they are not required to be involved in the claims process. The Accountancy Insurance claims team are very professional, efficient and responsive, and our claims are always paid promptly."

Edi Carlesso, Partner Bentleys, Adelaide SA



Contact Us

If you have any further queries about **Audit Shield,** please contact us.

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