

GUIDE TO COMPLEX DEBT REPORTING



Under the Cost Basis Legislation (CBL), broker dealers are required to report cost basis and annual income adjustments for "complex debt" securities. The CBL was first introduced in 2008 and required incremental increases to the amount of cost basis and income adjustment information reported annually to the IRS by agents such as Janney. Complex debt instruments purchased or acquired before 2016 will remain "non-covered," meaning Janney will not report the basis or adjustment information on those shares to the IRS, however clients will still be able to see any pertinent information we have on their 1099 consolidated tax form.

WHAT IS CONSIDERED "COMPLEX DEBT?"

Per the IRS, "complex debt" for tax reporting purposes includes debt instruments in the following categories:

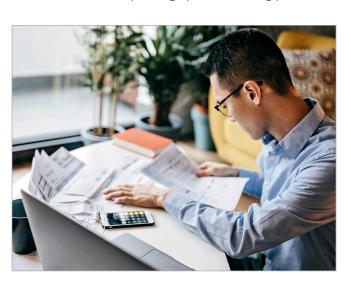
- A debt instrument that provides for more than one rate of stated interest (for example, a debt instrument with stepped interest rates)
- A convertible debt instrument (that is, one that permits the holder to convert it into stock of the issuer)
- A stripped bond or coupon
- A debt instrument that requires payment of either interest or principal in a currency other than the U.S. dollar
- A debt instrument that entitles the holder to a tax credit(s)
- A debt instrument that provides for a payment-in-kind feature
- A debt instrument issued by a non-U.S. issuer
- A debt instrument for which the terms of the instrument aren't reasonably available to the broker within 90 days of the date the debt instrument was acquired by the customer
- A debt instrument issued as part of an investment unit (for example, a debt instrument issued with an option, security, or other property)
- A debt instrument evidenced by a physical certificate unless such certificate is held (whether directly or through a nominee, agent, or subsidiary) by a securities depository or by a clearing organization described in Treas. Reg. § 1.1471-1(b)(18)
- · A contingent-payment debt instrument

- A variable-rate debt instrument
- An inflation-indexed debt instrument (for example, a Treasury Inflation-Protected Security)

If you have any questions on assets that do not fit into the above categories, or if you are uncertain if a certain asset qualifies, please see Treas. Reg. §1.6045-1(n)(3) for the specific requirements to determine if a debt instrument is a "covered security."

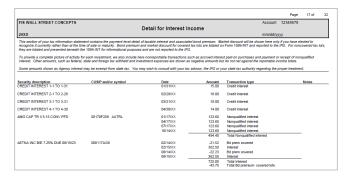
How This Affects Your 1099 Form

The consolidated 1099 form will break out cost basis information and adjustments for complex debt in a reportable section. For example, a position of an asset classified as "complex debt" which has an acquisition date of 01/01/2016 or later and was sold or disposed of during the tax year will report under "Short Term Transactions For Covered Tax Lots" or "Long Term Transactions For Covered Tax Lots" depending upon the holding period.



Where Is Interest Income Reported?

Interest income is aptly reported on the 1099-INT section of the consolidated 1099 form, as shown below. The summary of interest income in the applicable account is found on page 2 of the consolidated 1099 form with detailed information shown by CUSIP and/or symbol in the later section labeled "Detail for Interest Income." In addition, tax-exempt interest details are shown in the following section, labeled "Detail for Tax-Exempt Interest." See below for examples.





WHAT IS OID?

Original issue discount (OID) is a form of interest. It is the difference between a debt instrument's stated redemption price at maturity and its issue price (acquisition price for a stripped bond or coupon). Zero coupon bonds and debt instruments that pay no stated interest until maturity are examples of debt instruments that have OID.

How Is OID Reported?

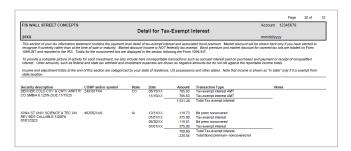
OID is reported as income each year as it accrues, whether or not you receive any payments from the debt instrument issuer.

For example, if you hold a zero coupon bond with a maturity 10 years from issuance which is issued at \$900 and redeems at \$1,000, you would have \$10 in OID reported as income each year.

Examples of how this information is reported on the Consolidated 1099 form are shown below. Additional details are shown per CUSIP and/or symbol in the later sections of the Consolidated 1099 form labeled "Detail for Original Issue Discount." Tax-exempt will indicate the applicable state or U.S. territory or possession per CUSIP.

For further information on how OID is calculated and reported for different types of debt instruments, see the specifics on IRS Publication 1212. See pages 10-14 for complex debt OID calculations specifically.

For a directory of REMICs and CDOs, as well as directions on how to request information from specific issuers, please refer to IRS Publication 938.





OTHER USEFUL DEFINITIONS

Accrual period: An accrual period is an interval of time used to measure OID. The length of an accrual period can be 6 months, a year, or some other period no longer than one year, depending on when the debt instrument was issued.

Acquisition premium: Acquisition premium is the excess of a debt instrument's adjusted basis immediately after purchase, including purchase at original issue, over the debt instrument's adjusted issue price at that time.

Adjusted issue price: The adjusted issue price of a debt instrument at the beginning of an accrual period is used to figure the OID allocable to that period. In general, the adjusted issue price at the beginning of the debt instrument's first accrual period is its issue price. The adjusted issue price at the beginning of any subsequent accrual period is the sum of the issue price and all the OID includible in income before that accrual period minus any payment previously made on the debt instrument, other than a payment of qualified stated interest.

Debt instrument: The term "debt instrument" means any instrument or contractual arrangement that constitutes indebtedness under general principles of federal income tax law (including, for example, a bond, debenture, note, certificate, or other evidence of indebtedness). It generally does not include an annuity contract.

Issue price: The issue price generally is the initial offering price to the public (excluding bond houses and brokers) at which a substantial amount of these instruments was sold.

Market discount: Market discount arises when a debt instrument purchased in the secondary market has decreased in value since its issue date, generally because of an increase in interest rates. An OID debt instrument has market discount if your adjusted basis in the debt instrument immediately after you acquired it (usually its purchase price) was less than the debt instrument's issue price plus the total OID that accrued before you acquired it. The market discount is the difference between the issue price plus accrued OID and your adjusted basis.

Premium: A debt instrument is purchased at a premium if its adjusted basis immediately after purchase is greater than the total of all amounts payable on the debt instrument after the purchase date, other than qualified stated interest. The premium is the excess of the adjusted basis over the payable amounts. See Publication 550 for information on the tax treatment of bond premium.

Qualified stated interest (QSI): In general, qualified stated interest is stated interest that is unconditionally payable in cash or property (other than debt instruments of the issuer) at least annually over the term of the debt instrument at a single fixed rate.

Nonqualified stated interest (NQSI): Non-qualified stated interest reflects periodic payments on contingent debt securities (a type of complex debt for reporting purposes). If the non-qualified interest paid was greater than the amount projected by the issuer, the excess will be reported on IRS Form 1099INT.

Stated redemption price at maturity: A debt instrument's stated redemption price at maturity is the sum of all amounts (principal and interest) payable on the debt instrument other than qualified stated interest.

Definition Reference: https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p1212.pdf

Any IRS Publications and/or available website addresses or reference information herein are not the property of Janney Montgomery Scott LLC and are subject to amendment. Please consult your professional tax advisor or the IRS directly with any questions regarding these documents or updates to them or their website content.

Each Taxpayer's situation is different and tax-related information provided herein is general in nature. Clients should consult with a professional tax advisor with questions specific to their personal tax situation. These FAQs are provided for informational purposes to explain a Janney process which is not applicable to IRAs for which Janney is not custodian. Please consult your IRA custodian or professional tax advisor for further information related to your tax situation.