

HSBC InvestDirect International Account Opening Guidance

Frequently Asked Questions

What forms do I need to complete?

In order to process your application, the required forms detailed in [Appendix 1](#) must be completed and returned to us along with the supporting documentation.

How do I return my application to you?

You can send your application and accompanying documentation via post to the following address:

HSBC House
Account Administration Team
3rd Floor, Ridgeway Street
Douglas
Isle of Man
IM1 1ER

What if I want to trade in US equities?

If you'd like to trade on US Markets, you'll need to complete:

- The NYSE and AMEX Agreement for Market Data Display Services (Form A) which can be found on page 14;
- The 'Standalone NASDAQ Subscriber Agreement' (Form B) which can be found on page 16; and
- A W-8BEN or W-9 form (whichever is appropriate for you), which are provided by the US Inland Revenue Services (IRS) and can be found on their website: [irs.gov/forms-instructions](https://www.irs.gov/forms-instructions)

Please download the relevant forms from the IRS website, complete and send it in the application pack.

Are there any tax implications?

It is possible that the country you live in will want to tax your worldwide income and gains, so we recommend that you take tax advice in your country of residence to ensure that you are aware of all the consequences of opening an HSBC InvestDirect International Portfolio before you proceed.

Your liability to tax will depend on the rules in your country of residence and your individual circumstances. If you are in doubt as to the tax treatment, we recommend you should obtain tax advice. The information in these pages is based on our understanding of the current law and practice at the time of publication. Future changes in legislation, tax levels and practice could affect the information on the website.

If you are UK resident and non domiciled for UK tax purposes, using money from your settlement account (or any money held offshore) to settle trades via InvestDirect may create a UK taxable remittance. If you are unsure if this service is right for you we recommend that you seek independent tax advice.

For details of the tax implications of dealing through a UK based nominee service, [click here](#) to read our Sharedealing Tax FAQs and the HSBC InvestDirect International Terms and Conditions.

Is HSBC InvestDirect International an offshore service?

No. HSBC InvestDirect International is a UK based service – so it's subject to UK law and UK tax regulations.

For more Sharedealing Tax FAQs [click here](#).

What else do I need to consider?

You'll need a Bank Account with HSBC Expat before you can open an HSBC InvestDirect International account.

HSBC Expat is a division of HSBC Bank plc, Jersey Branch. Your shares will be held electronically in a separate nominee account, but you'll be the beneficial owner.

Your HSBC InvestDirect International portfolio will be governed by the terms and conditions of HSBC InvestDirect International [click here](#).

Who do I contact if I need help?

If you have any questions please call our 24/7 Contact Centre on **+44 1534 616 313***. Alternatively, send us a secure message from your Online Banking.

To help us to continually improve our service and in the interest of security, we may monitor and record your communications with us.

You can also find further information about our InvestDirect International share dealing service at: www.expat.hsbc.com/wealth/investments/products/shares/

*Please have your 10-digit Personal Banking Number (PBN) and your 6-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN) to hand when calling us.

Appendix 1

Check list for submitting an application form

- InvestDirect International Application Pack
- Certified copy of your passport which has been certified in the last 3 months
- The following forms will ONLY need to be completed if you want to trade in US equities:
 - Sharedealing Form A (NYSE)
 - Sharedealing Form B (NASDAQ)
 - W9 (for US persons) OR W-8BEN (for non-US persons)

NYSE (A) & NASDAQ (B) agreement forms

A Form – only the customer information is to be completed.

B Form – only section A to be signed.

Please select the correct W form by visiting:

<https://apps.irs.gov/app/picklist/list/formsPublications.html>

Please note **ALL** pages of the forms completed need to be returned.

Digitally Signed Applications

For the electronic signature to be acceptable by IDI, it needs to meet the following requirements:

- The signature needs to be in a signature block that includes a time and date stamp and;
- A statement that the certificate has been electronically / digitally signed and;
- The name of the person authorised to sign the form
- IDI will not accept a signature if it is signed with a mouse / e-pen

Please see the below example:

Signature (sole applications only)

X CUSTOMER NAME	Digitally signed by: CUSTOMER NAME
	Date: 2020.04.17 22:02:24 +08'00'

Date

0	4	1	7	2	0	2	0
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