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2019 Instructions for Form 1099-SB



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Seller's Investment in Life Insurance Contract

Future Developments

For the latest information about developments related to Form 1099-SB and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to [IRS.gov/Form1099SB](https://www.irs.gov/Form1099SB).

Reminders

In addition to these specific instructions, you should also use the 2019 General Instructions for Certain Information Returns. Those general instructions include information about the following topics.

- Who must file (nominee/middleman).
- When and where to file.
- Electronic reporting requirement.
- Corrected and void returns.
- Statements to recipients.
- Taxpayer identification numbers (TINs).
- Backup withholding.
- Penalties.
- Other general topics.

You can get the general instructions from [General Instructions for Certain Information Returns](https://www.irs.gov/GeneralInstructions) at [IRS.gov/1099generalinstructions](https://www.irs.gov/1099generalinstructions) or go to [IRS.gov/Form1099SB](https://www.irs.gov/Form1099SB).

Specific Instructions

This form is used by the issuer of a life insurance contract (also known as a life insurance policy) to report the seller's investment in the contract and surrender amount with respect to a life insurance contract transferred in a "reportable policy sale" or transferred to a foreign person.

A reportable policy sale is any direct or indirect acquisition of a life insurance contract, or any interest in a life insurance contract, if the acquirer has no substantial family, business, or financial relationship with the person insured under that contract, apart from the acquirer's interest in such life insurance contract. The acquisition of an interest in a partnership, trust, or other entity that holds an interest in a life insurance contract may be an indirect acquisition of a life insurance contract or an interest in a life insurance contract and may be a reportable policy sale.

An "issuer" is any life insurance company that bears the risk with respect to a life insurance contract. In general, this will be the life insurance company that is responsible for administering the contract, including paying death benefits under the life insurance contract.

A "seller" is any person who transfers an interest in a life insurance contract to an acquirer in a reportable policy sale or to a foreign person.

An "acquirer" is any person who acquires a life insurance contract, or any interest in a life insurance contract, in a reportable policy sale.

Who Must File

File Form 1099-SB if you are the issuer of a life insurance contract and either of the following occurs.

- You receive a statement from an acquirer in a reportable policy sale provided under section 6050Y(a), such as a copy of a Form 1099-LS, Reportable Policy Sale, reporting the transfer of the life insurance contract, or an interest therein, in a reportable policy sale.
- You receive notice of a transfer of the life insurance contract to a foreign person. Notice of a transfer to a foreign person means any notice received by an issuer indicating a transfer of a life insurance contract, including information provided for nontax purposes such as a change of address notice for purposes of sending statements or for other purposes, or information relating to loans, premiums, or death benefits with respect to the contract.

If you are the issuer, enter your name, address, telephone number, and TIN. Additionally, enter the name, address, and telephone number of your information contact, if different from your own. This contact information must provide direct access to a person who can answer questions about this information return.

Online fillable forms. You may fill out the form, found online at [IRS.gov/Form1099SB](https://www.irs.gov/Form1099SB), and send Copy B to the recipient. For filing with the IRS, follow your usual procedures for filing electronically if you are filing 250 or more forms. If you are filing this form on paper due to a low volume of recipients, **for this form only**, you may send in the black-and-white Copy A with a Form 1096 that you print from the IRS website.

Reporting

If you are the issuer responsible for reporting under section 6050Y(b), you must file a separate Form 1099-SB for each seller with respect to each life insurance contract for which you received notice of a transfer in a reportable policy sale or a transfer to a foreign person. Enter the name, address, and TIN of the seller; the policy number of the life insurance contract; the seller's investment in the contract; and the surrender amount.

Policy Number

The policy number is the unique identifying number you assigned to the life insurance contract.

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Seller's Investment in the Contract

"Investment in the contract" means the aggregate amount of premiums or other consideration paid for the contract, less the aggregate amount received under the contract, to the extent that such amount was excludable from gross income. However, with respect to any seller other than the original policyholder, the issuer's obligation to report the investment in the contract on any date will be limited to the information that is known to the issuer (in general, the amount of premiums received from the seller for the contract before that date, less the aggregate amount paid to the seller under the contract before that date).

For more information about the requirement to furnish a statement to the payment recipient and the issuer, see part M in the 2019 General Instructions for Certain Information Returns.

Surrender Amount

The surrender amount is the amount the seller would have received from the issuer if the seller had surrendered the life insurance contract to the issuer on the date of the reportable policy sale or the transfer of the contract, or an interest therein, to a foreign person.

Statement to Seller

If you are required to file Form 1099-SB, you must furnish a statement or acceptable substitute to the seller, such as

Copy B of Form 1099-SB. For more information about the requirement to furnish a statement to the seller, see part M in the 2019 General Instructions for Certain Information Returns.



The issuer's information contact name must be provided in the appropriate box. The individual named must be familiar with the reporting requirements of reportable policy sales.

Truncating recipient's TIN. Pursuant to Treasury Regulations section 301.6109-4, all filers of this form may truncate the seller's TIN (social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN)) on statements furnished to a seller (Copy B). Truncation is not allowed on any documents the filer files with the IRS. An issuer's TIN may not be truncated on any form. See part J in the 2019 General Instructions for Certain Information Returns.

Box 1. Investment in Contract

Enter the seller's investment in the contract.

Box 2. Surrender Amount

Enter the surrender amount.