



Frequently Asked Questions – Prize Bonds

1. How do they work?

Prize Bonds are purchased in units of €6.25. There is a minimum purchase of 4 units costing €25. Each eligible Prize Bond is entered into a weekly draw with prizes ranging in value. The top prize is **€1 MILLION** in the last weekly draw each month and **€20,000** in all other weekly draws. Over 8,000 cash prizes are awarded each week.

2. Where can I buy Prize Bonds?

Prize Bonds can be purchased by

1. **Monthly Direct Debit** form available online at www.StateSavings.ie
2. **Online** www.StateSavings.ie
3. **Telephone** State Savings™ 1850 30 50 60.
Our agent will record your details.
Payment by Debit Card (Laser, Maestro or Visa Debit).
4. **Freepost Application Form**
print an application form from www.StateSavings.ie
Complete it and mail it to
State Savings, GPO, FREEPOST, Dublin 1 (no stamp required)
or deliver it to
5. **Any Post Office**

3. Can I purchase Prize Bonds as a Gift?

Yes, Prize Bonds are an excellent gift idea. Use any of options 2 to 5 above.

When purchasing at the Post Office, you may ask for a gift wallet into which you can place your receipt. The receipt has the value of the purchase and the recipient's name on it. You can then give this gift wallet to the recipient. The actual Prize Bonds will issue within 7 to 10 working days.

When purchasing online www.StateSavings.ie you can print a Gift Certificate. This certificate has the purchasers name, the recipient's name and the value of the purchase. You can give this certificate to the recipient. The actual Prize Bonds will



Frequently Asked Questions – Prize Bonds

issue within 7 to 10 working days. Please remember to give the Gift Certificate/Receipt to the recipient, as the issued Bond Certificate only shows the Bond holder name.

When purchasing online or using the Application Form you can also choose to have a gift letter sent to the recipient, with the purchasers name and a gift greeting included. The actual Prize Bonds will issue within 7 to 10 working days.

4. When are the draws?

The draws take place every Friday and the results are published at lunchtime around 12.30pm. The results are available online www.StateSavings.ie from 12:30 and the top six prize winning numbers are available at all Post Offices from that afternoon.

5. What is the current value of prize bond holdings?

At end December 2011 the value of Prize Bonds outstanding was €1.4 billion and there approximately 231 million individual prize bonds.

6. How many prizes are there?

There are over 8,000 prizes in **every** weekly draw.

The following is the prize structure:

€1 MILLION Prize - awarded on the last Friday of every month.

€20,000 - awarded each week other than when the €1 MILLION prize is awarded.

€ 1,000 - 5 Prizes each week

€ 250 - 10 Prizes each week

€ 75 - over 8,000 each week.

7. Is my Prize Bond included in every draw?

A registered prize bond is included in every draw until it is encashed. With Prize Bonds you are eligible to win not just once, but every week for as long as you hold your bonds. Each individual bond is eligible to win one prize in every draw.



Frequently Asked Questions – Prize Bonds

8. How are prize bond winners selected in the weekly draw

The Prize Bonds winners are selected in a computerised draw each week. The numbers are randomly generated by a computer and every draw is observed by an official from the National Treasury Management Agency. The results of every draw are independently analysed to confirm the randomness of the draw.

9. I have Prize Bonds for 40 years, what has happened to them?

Your Prize Bonds are included in every draw until you cash them in. All Prize Bonds, regardless of how old they are, stand an equal chance, relevant to the unit value, of winning a prize in every draw. Even if one of your Prize Bonds wins a prize it is included in every draw after that.

10. Can I get a statement of my Prize Bonds holdings?

Yes, download the “**Request for Statement of Account**” form which is available at http://www.statesavings.ie/Downloads/CS_StatementRequestForm.pdf

You can also use the same form to request a statement on your holdings, if any, of any other State Savings™ products such as Savings Bonds, Savings Certificates, Instalment Savings (including Child Care Plus), National Solidarity Bond, State Savings Account and the various Deposit Accounts – simply tick in all three boxes A,B and C.

11. How do I know if I've won a prize?

All prize winners are contacted following each draw. To ensure that you can be notified of any winnings, it is important that you inform us if you change address.

12. Do I pay tax on my winnings?

No. In Ireland all Prize Bond winnings are completely tax-free and are not liable to D.I.R.T. (Deposit Interest Retention Tax), Income Tax, or Capital Gains Tax.



Frequently Asked Questions – Prize Bonds

13. Are the prize winners announced?

All Prize Bond winners are notified but the names and addresses of winners are **not** published. The winning numbers are listed on our website www.StateSavings.ie
The top six prize winning numbers are available at all Post Offices.

14. What happens to unclaimed prizes?

Very few prizes are not claimed, but if someone does not claim their prize within 6 months of the draw date, the prize is entered onto our unclaimed prizes database. The prize is then held, indefinitely until the holder comes forward to claim it. If Prize Bonds are not claimed within six months they begin to earn interest for the prize winner.

All unclaimed prizes are listed on our database at www.StateSavings.ie
You can also get details of unclaimed prizes by telephoning 1850 30 50 60.

15. How do I cash in my Prize Bonds?

Prize Bonds can be cashed in at any time after an initial holding period of three months. Simply complete a repayment form (available online at www.StateSavings.ie or at any Post Office) and send it to

**State Savings
Prize Bonds Repayment Section
Fexco
Killorglin
FREEPOST
Co. Kerry**

16. Can Prize Bonds be transferred?

Yes. Telephone State Savings™ on 1850 30 50 60 and choose option 5 and then option 2 and ask for the Transfer of Bonds form. Transfers can be made for a single or multiple Prize Bonds.



Frequently Asked Questions – Prize Bonds

17. What happens to my Prize Bonds if I die?

Prize Bonds registered in the name of a Bondholder who has died may be payable to the nearest living relative (Next-of-Kin) or to the Legal Personal Representative of the Estate. Bonds may be re-invested in the purchase of new Bond numbers or transferred to other persons. If you are dealing with the estate of a Deceased Bondholder, you should write to

State Savings
Prize Bonds Deceased Section
Fexco
Killorglin
FREEPOST
Co. Kerry

Enclose the relevant Bond Certificates together with a note requesting one of the above options. You must be able to show -

- 1. Proof of Death:** by supplying one of the following original documents containing the date of death:
Death Certificate
Memoriam Card
Newspaper Obituary Notice
- 2. Last Will & Testament:** where there is a will available, the original or a certified copy of this document should be enclosed to verify who is/are the executor(s) of the Estate.
- 3. Grant of Representation :** if available, enclose the original or a certified copy.
- 4. Full details of all variations of names and addresses** used by the Deceased at any time since March 1957, when Prize Bonds began.

On receipt of your letter, we will conduct a full search of the records based on the information you have supplied and will respond in writing as soon as possible, giving a statement of the value of the Bonds registered in the name of the Deceased, and enclosing the relevant forms which should be completed and signed by the:

1. Nearest living relative (Next-of-Kin); or
2. Legal Personal Representative(s) as declared in documents governing the Estate.

The Forms are available at www.StateSavings.ie State Savings™ or tel. 1850 30 50 60.



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18. What is the relationship between the National Treasury Management Agency and

- (i) An Post
- (ii) The Prize Bond Company?

An Post and the Prize Bond Company are agents of the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA) in respect of the *Ireland State Savings*[™] product range.

Neither An Post nor the Prize Bond Company has ever retained or managed any *Ireland State Savings*[™] money.

All *Ireland State Savings*[™] money is placed directly with the Government under the management of the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA).

This has always been the situation and no change has taken place – both An Post and the Prize Bond Company are conduits that collect savings money and pass it directly to the Government.

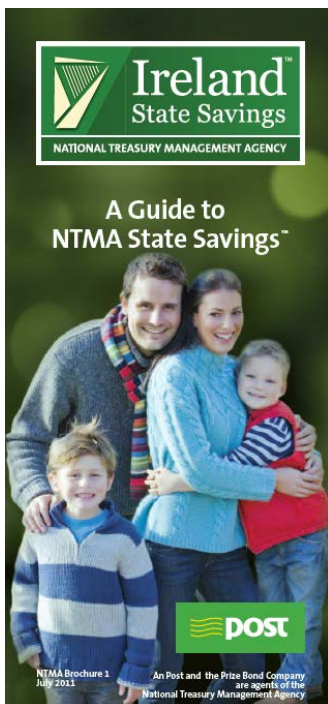
The obligation to repay State Savings[™] money is an unconditional obligation of the Irish Government and not an obligation of our agents (An Post and the Prize Bond Company).



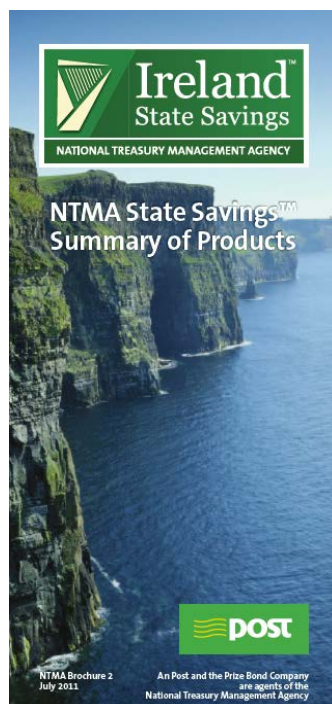
Frequently Asked Questions – Prize Bonds

19. Where can I get more information on State Savings™ products?

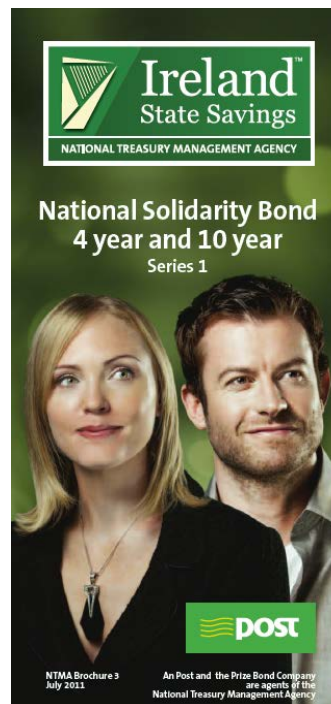
Visit any post office or our website www.StateSavings.ie where you can view and print four additional brochures and all the application forms.



NTMA Brochure 1



NTMA Brochure 2



NTMA Brochure 3



NTMA Brochure 4

Web: www.StateSavings.ie
Telephone: 1850 30 50 60
SMS Text: 0852 30 50 60
E-mail: Service@StateSavings.ie
Visit: Any Post Office
Mail to: State Savings, GPO, Dublin 1