## Morgan Stanley

**INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT** 

# 2018 Tax Guide

#### **TAX INFORMATION**

Morgan Stanley is pleased to provide you with the 2018 Tax Guide. We hope you find this information helpful as you prepare your 2018 tax returns.

Included in your tax packet, you'll find only those forms and inserts that apply to you.

Please consult your tax advisor with any specific questions regarding this information or how it impacts your tax returns.

For additional tax information about your Morgan Stanley mutual funds, visit the Tax Center at msim.com/taxcenter.

#### Form 1099-R

**WHO RECEIVES IT:** Shareholders who received a distribution from their fund held in a Morgan Stanley Individual Retirement Account or 403(b)(7) Tax Sheltered Account where UMB Bank NA serves as the named custodian of the account in 2018.

**WHAT IT SHOWS:** All gross distribution amounts from your fund and the amount of federal and/or state income tax withheld, if any. Depending upon the account type and nature of the distribution, the form may also report the taxable amount of the distribution. The type of retirement plan distribution is reported through the use of distribution codes in Column 7, which are defined on the back of the tax form.

## SPECIAL TAX INFORMATION FOR REAL ESTATE FUND SHAREHOLDERS

Shareholders of Morgan Stanley Institutional Fund, Inc. U.S. Real Estate Portfolio should be aware that the fund will likely issue amended Form 1099-DIV prior to March 15, 2019. This is because a majority of the fund's investments are in real estate investments trusts (REITs), and many REITs will redesignate their 2018 dividends in early February 2019. These redesignations usually reduce ordinary income.

Once the final REIT redesignation information has been received, we will determine whether the Form 1099-DIV will need to be amended.

#### **Form 1099-DIV**

**WHO RECEIVES IT:** Shareholders who received any taxable distributions and/or nondividend distributions from their fund in 2018. Shareholders will not receive a Form 1099-DIV for their retirement accounts.

**WHAT IT SHOWS:** All taxable distributions from your fund (including any capital gains) and nondividend distributions (including return of capital).

#### Form 1099-B

**WHO RECEIVES IT:** Shareholders who sold or exchanged shares of their fund in 2018 (for non-retirement accounts).

**WHAT IT SHOWS:** The proceeds from any redemptions and exchanges from your fund and the amount of federal income tax withheld, if any. If you received less than \$20 in proceeds from any redemption or exchange of fractional shares, you will not receive a Form 1099-B.

For shares purchased prior to January 1, 2012 that have cost basis information available (generally referred to as noncovered securities), Form 1099-B will show any gain or loss from the sale using the average cost method. We calculate cost basis using the Single Category Average Cost method. To calculate your cost basis with this method, we take the total cost of all shares purchased prior to January 1, 2012, including any purchases through reinvestment of dividends, capitals gains or return of capital distributions, and divide this amount by your total number of shares.

For shares purchased on or after January 1, 2012 that have cost basis information available (generally referred to as covered securities), the fund is required to report to the Internal Revenue Service the cost basis information for sale transactions of shares. Shareholders may elect to have one of several cost basis methods applied to their account and shown on their Form 1099-B, including average cost, FIFO, or some other specific identification method. Average cost will be used as the default cost basis method unless otherwise instructed by you. Average cost for these shares are calculated separately from the average

cost of shares purchased prior to January 1, 2012 even though they may appear on the same Form 1099-B.

Cost basis information may not be available for all accounts. To determine your cost basis you may need your transaction information. Please see your account statements and consult your tax advisor.

Note: If your investment is in a money market fund, Form 1099-B will not apply to you.

#### **Form 1099-INT**

**WHO RECEIVES IT:** Shareholders who received tax-exempt distributions in 2018.

**WHAT IT SHOWS:** All tax-exempt distributions from your fund, which will help you determine what portion might be tax-exempt for state tax purposes. This form also includes the amount of income from the fund's investment in specified private activity bonds that may be subject to the federal Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT).

#### Additional tax information

#### Tax-exempt funds

Tax-Exempt interest earned is reportable on Form 1099-INT. While still tax-exempt, the dividends must be reported on your tax return. Please note that, for certain taxpayers, a portion of the tax-exempt interest dividends may be required to be taken into account as a tax preference item for purposes of federal alternative minimum tax (AMT). In addition, a breakdown of the source of income by state for the national tax-exempt funds must be mailed to you by January 31, 2019, with Form 1099-INT. This detailed state information is not reported to the IRS and is provided to you as an additional service by the Morgan Stanley Funds.

Morgan Stanley tax-exempt funds may have paid taxable distributions in 2018. If you received reportable distributions, including capital gain distributions, in the aggregate of \$10 or more in 2018, these will be reported on your 2018 Form 1099-DIV. Capital gains distributions are taxable even if paid by a tax-exempt fund. Also note that the redemption or exchange of shares in a tax-exempt mutual fund in 2018 is considered a taxable event, and the proceeds are reported to the IRS on Form 1099-B.

#### Reallocation of distributions: Return of capital redesignation

A portion of the income dividends paid by certain Morgan Stanley Funds may have been redesignated as nontaxable return of capital. Your Form 1099-DIV for these funds reports the proper amount of "nondividend distributions" for income tax purposes. If a return of capital was reported to you, an adjustment to the basis of your shares will be necessary. Please consult your tax advisor for further information.

#### Foreign tax credit

For 2018, certain funds have elected to pass through to their shareholders the opportunity to claim foreign taxes paid by the funds as either a credit or a deduction. As a result of this election, your share of foreign taxes paid has been reported in Box 6 on your Form 1099-DIV ("Foreign tax paid") as well as included in your gross income in Box 1a and 1b on your Form 1099-DIV. For informational purposes, the foreign sourced income relating to these foreign taxes is reflected below:

	% OF BOX 1A THAT IS FOREIGN SOURCED	% OF BOX 1B THAT IS FOREIGN SOURCED
FUND	INCOME	INCOME
MS European Equity Fund Inc.	99.45%	99.45%
MSIF Active International Allocation Portfolio	93.94%	93.94%
MSIF Asia Opportunity Portfolio	88.81%	88.81%
MSIF Emerging Markets Breakout Nations Portfolio	85.04%	85.04%
MSIF Emerging Markets Leaders Portfolio	96.73%	96.73%
MSIF Emerging Markets Portfolio	96.36%	96.36%
MSIF Emerging Markets Small Cap Portfolio	90.87%	90.87%
MSIF Frontier Markets Portfolio	99.61%	99.61%
MSIF Global Concentrated Real Estate Portfolio	28.09%	28.09%
MSIF Global Infrastructure Portfolio	75.62%	75.62%
MSIF Global Insight Portfolio	70.57%	70.57%
MSIF International Advantage Portfolio	87.42%	87.42%
MSIF International Equity Portfolio	98.49%	98.49%
MSIF International Opportunity Portfolio	84.70%	84.70%
MSIF International Real Estate Portfolio	99.74%	99.74%
MSIF Real Asset Portfolio	40.71%	40.71%
MSIFT Global Strategist Portfolio	61.93%	61.93%

Morgan Stanley (MS), Morgan Stanley Institutional Funds, Inc. (MSIF) and Morgan Stanley Institutional Fund Trust (MSIFT)

Although shareholders generally no longer need country-by-country information due to changes in the foreign tax credit provisions of the tax law, the country-by-country information on the amounts of foreign sourced income is available by request.

#### **U.S. Government Income percentages**

The portion of dividends paid by your fund that is derived from U.S. Government obligations is generally exempt from state and local income taxes. In many states, income derived from other government agencies is also free from state income taxes. The percentage of 2018 dividends paid by your fund attributable to government and agency obligations is listed on the next page.

2018 U.S. Government Income percentages

	PRIMARY OBLIGATIONS %	SECONDARY OBLIGATIONS %	DID THE FUND HAVE MORE THAN 50% IN QUALIFYING GOVERNMENT
FUND	(TREASURIES)	(GOVT. AGENCIES)	SECURITIES AT QUARTER-END?
MS Active Assets Government Trust	5.40%	22.92%	No
MS Active Assets Prime Trust	0.00%	0.00%	No
MS Global Fixed Income Opportunities Fund	1.47%	0.00%	No
MS Mortgage Securities Trust	1.16%	0.00%	No
MS U.S. Government Money Market Trust	4.40%	37.04%	No
MS U.S. Government Securities Trust	3.19%	5.11%	No
MSIF Multi Asset	13.57%	0.00%	No
MSIF Real Assets	7.70%	0.00%	No
MSIFT Core Plus Fixed Income	6.06%	0.17%	No
MSIFT Corporate Bond Fund	0.66%	0.00%	No
MSIFT Global Multi-Asset Income	12.99%	0.00%	No
MSIFT Global Strategist	8.46%	0.00%	No
MSIFT Short Duration	0.57%	0.00%	No
MSIFT Strategic Income	5.56%	0.00%	No
MSIFT Ultra-Short Income	0.00%	0.00%	No

The above percentages do not include income derived from GNMA or FNMA obligations.

Primary obligations represent direct investments in Treasury securities, while secondary obligations are direct investments in generally qualifying U.S. agency obligations.

Only those funds that have earned income from U.S. Government obligations in 2018 are listed on the next page. If applicable, these percentages should be applied to the amount shown in Box 1a on your Form 1099-DIV. For specific information regarding your state's exemption provisions, please consult your tax advisor or local taxing authority.

#### **Qualified Dividend Income**

Your Form 1099-DIV reports in Box 1b the amount of qualified dividends that were paid to you in 2018. Please note, however, that although these dividends are eligible for consideration as qualified dividends, there are additional rules (including, but not limited to, a holding period test) that must be met at the shareholder level in order for these dividends to be taxable at a lower tax rate.

The schedule below lists the qualifying dividend income percentages for each of the dividends paid during the year by funds that had dividend income at the fund level. Please consult with your tax advisor as to the appropriate use of these percentages.

#### **2018 Qualifying Dividend Income percentages**

FUND	<b>EX-DIVIDEND DATE</b>	QUALIFIED DIVIDEND INCOME PERCENTAGE
MS European Equity Fund	12/21/18	100.00%
MSIF Active International Allocation Portfolio	7/6/18	83.99%
MSIF Active International Allocation Portfolio	12/17/18	83.99%
MSIF Advantage Portfolio	7/3/18	39.35%
MSIF Advantage Portfolio	11/14/18	39.35%
MSIF Asia Opportunity Portfolio	7/6/18	17.36%
MSIF Emerging Markets Breakout Nations Portfolio	7/6/18	19.07%
MSIF Emerging Markets Leaders Portfolio	7/6/18	100.00%
MSIF Emerging Markets Leaders Portfolio	12/17/18	100.00%
MSIF Emerging Markets Portfolio	7/6/18	82.44%
MSIF Emerging Markets Portfolio	12/17/18	82.44%
MSIF Emerging Markets Small Cap Portfolio	7/6/18	100.00%
MSIF Frontier Markets Portfolio	7/6/18	83.43%
MSIF Frontier Markets Portfolio	12/17/18	83.43%
MSIF Global Advantage Portfolio	7/6/18	10.75%
MSIF Global Advantage Portfolio	11/14/18	10.75%
MSIF Global Concentrated Portfolio	12/17/18	100.00%
MSIF Global Concentrated Real Estate Portfolio	12/17/18	8.08%
MSIF Global Core Portfolio	12/17/18	100.00%
MSIF Global Counterpoint Portfolio	12/17/18	17.33%
MSIF Global Discovery Portfolio	7/6/18	44.78%
MSIF Global Discovery Portfolio	11/14/18	44.78%

#### 2018 Qualifying Dividend Income percentages (continued)

FUND	<b>EX-DIVIDEND DATE</b>	QUALIFIED DIVIDEND INCOME PERCENTAGE
MSIF Global Franchise Portfolio	7/6/18	100.00%
MSIF Global Franchise Portfolio	12/17/18	100.00%
MSIF Global Infrastructure Fund	7/6/18	100.00%
MSIF Global Infrastructure Fund	12/17/18	100.00%
MSIF Global Insight Portfolio	7/6/18	53.52%
MSIF Global Insight Portfolio	11/14/18	53.52%
MSIF Global Opportunity Portfolio	7/6/18	0.61%
MSIF Global Real Estate Portfolio	7/6/18	23.91%
MSIF Global Real Estate Portfolio	12/17/18	23.91%
MSIF Global Sustain Portfolio <sup>1</sup>	7/6/18	100.00%
MSIF Global Sustain Portfolio <sup>1</sup>	12/17/18	100.00%
MSIF Growth Portfolio	7/3/18	0.03%
MSIF Growth Portfolio	12/11/18	0.03%
MSIF Insight Portfolio	7/3/18	44.94%
MSIF Insight Portfolio	11/14/18	44.94%
MSIF International Advantage Portfolio	7/6/18	91.06%
MSIF International Advantage Portfolio	12/17/18	91.06%
MSIF International Equity Portfolio	7/6/18	100.00%
MSIF International Equity Portfolio	12/17/18	100.00%
MSIF International Opportunity Portfolio	7/6/18	100.00%
MSIF International Opportunity Portfolio	12/17/18	100.00%
MSIF International Real Estate Portfolio	7/6/18	42.99%
MSIF International Real Estate Portfolio	12/17/18	42.99%
MSIF Real Assets Portfolio	10/2/18	24.96%
MSIF Real Assets Portfolio	12/11/18	24.96%
MSIF Small Company Growth Portfolio	12/11/18	3.52%
MSIF US Core Portfolio	12/11/18	100.00%
MSIF US Real Estate Portfolio	4/2/18	0.03%
MSIF US Real Estate Portfolio	7/6/18	0.03%
MSIF US Real Estate Portfolio	10/2/18	0.03%
MSIF US Real Estate Portfolio	12/17/18	0.03%
MSIFT Global Multi-Asset Income Portfolio	4/3/18	22.25%
MSIFT Global Multi-Asset Income Portfolio	7/3/18	22.25%
MSIFT Global Multi-Asset Income Portfolio	10/2/18	22.25%
MSIFT Global Multi-Asset Income Portfolio	12/11/18	22.25%
MSIFT Global Strategist Portfolio	12/11/18	31.28%
MSIFT Mid Cap Growth Portfolio	12/11/18	6.95%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Effective April 30, 2018, the name of the Portfolio was changed from Morgan Stanley Institutional Fund, Inc. Global Quality Portfolio to Morgan Stanley Institutional Fund, Inc. Global Sustain Portfolio. There were no other changes to the Portfolio or investment process.

If you should have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact one of our Client Service Representatives at 1.800.548.7786

Morgan Stanley does not provide tax advice. The tax information contained herein is general and is not exhaustive by nature. It was not intended or written to be used, and it cannot be used by any taxpayer, for the purpose of avoiding penalties that may be imposed on the taxpayer under U.S. federal tax laws. Federal and state tax laws are complex and constantly changing. You should always consult your own legal or tax professional for information concerning your individual situation.

There is no assurance that a mutual fund will achieve its investment objective. Funds are subject to market risk, which is the possibility that the market values of securities owned by the fund will decline and that the value of fund shares may therefore be less than what you paid for them. Accordingly, you can lose money investing in mutual funds.

Please consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the funds carefully before investing. The prospectus contains this and other information about the funds. To obtain a prospectus, contact your financial advisor or download one at morganstanley.com/im. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing.

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