

Important Information About Economic Impact Payment

What is the Economic Impact Payment?

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, Economic Security Act (CARES Act) has authorized financial impact payments to help people financially during the coronavirus emergency.

Who is Eligible to Receive a Payment?

- ▶ United States residents are eligible if they are not dependent on another taxpayer, have a Social Security number (SSN) that is valid for employment, and have adjusted gross income of up to:
 - \$75,000 for individuals
 - \$112,500 for heads of household and
 - \$150,000 for married couples filing a joint return
- ▶ Taxpayers will receive a reduced payment if their adjusted gross income is between:
 - \$75,000 & \$99,000 if your marital status was single or married you filed separately
 - \$112,500 & \$136,500 for head of the family
 - \$150,000 & \$198,000 if your marital status was married and you filed a joint return
- ▶ If the taxpayer, spouse or a dependent has a PTIN (Personal Taxpayer Identification Number) instead of a Social Security number (SSN), no family member will receive a payment (with the exception that they are serving in the armed forces). Note: *This does not include spouses who have a SSN when their spouse does not have a SSN and file a joint return. The spouse with a SSN may be eligible for a financial impact payment if he or she makes a separate filing as married. However, spouses in their situation should consult with a tax professional, because a separate return may affect their eligibility to receive tax credits, such as those they may receive under the Affordable Care Act.*

How Much Can I Receive?

- ▶ \$1,200 for individual taxpayers
- ▶ \$500 additional for qualifying child under 17

Do I Need to Take Action?

Taxpayers do not need to take any additional action and will receive their payment automatically if:

- ▶ They filed their tax returns for 2018 or 2019. The IRS will use this information to calculate the payment amount.
- ▶ If they DID NOT file a tax return in 2018 or 2019, but receive Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability (SSDI), survivor benefits, railroad retirement benefits, or Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) benefits and began receiving these benefits BEFORE January 1, 2020.
 - If you receive benefits from the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and did not file a tax return in 2018 or 2019 and have children who may qualify, you can enter this information here <http://irs.gov/nonfilereip> by Tuesday, May 5 to receive \$500 per child. If not, you will need to wait until the next year to file your tax return and receive payment for the qualifying children.
 - People who receive Social Security, SSDI, survivor or railroad retirement benefits and did not add information about dependents before April 22, 2020, and did not receive the \$500 per dependent can add these dependents on their 2020.

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If you don't appear in any of the above categories and you're generally not required to file a tax return:

- ▶ If you don't have to file a return, use the "Non-Filers: Enter Payment Info Here" tool to provide simple information so you can receive your payment (<http://irs.gov/nonfilereip>)

Help for people who need to file a tax return

- ▶ Free help from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS): <https://www.irs.gov/filing/free-file-do-your-federal-taxes-for-free>
- ▶ To complete a paper tax form: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040.pdf> The IRS is not currently processing paper tax forms so use this way of filing your return as a last resort.

How will I receive my payment?

- ▶ Payment is made by direct deposit to the bank account that you have designated on your tax return.
- ▶ You can confirm the type of payment (direct deposit or check) and provide your bank information for direct deposit if you have not sent it to the IRS before at: <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payments>
- ▶ If you have not provided your bank information to the IRS for direct deposit:
 - The IRS sends you a check in the mail, but this can take a month or more
 - If your mailing address has changed you need to report to the IRS using form 8822: **IRS Change of Address Form 8822**

Do the payments affect your eligibility to receive other public benefits?

- ▶ No. Payments are NOT counted as income, nor are they counted against resource limits, if the economic impact payment is spent within 12 months or deposited into an educational savings account or a retirement savings account.

Can the IRS take my payment away from me if I have IRS debt, student loan debt, or other government debt?

- ▶ No, but the IRS can remove your payment if you have any alimony debt that you have not paid.

What do I do if I have more questions?

- ▶ If you have any questions about how to receive your payment, call the Charlotte Legal Support Center 980-202-7329 (in English or Spanish)
- ▶ For more information or to request assistance online, fill out a form here: <https://charlottelegaladvocacy.org/cares-act-stimulus-checks/>

To learn more about your Economic Impact Payment

- ▶ [IRS.gov/coronavirus](https://irs.gov/coronavirus)
- ▶ <https://taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov/get-help/taxupdates>

Will the IRS contact me about my payment?

- ▶ You have to be careful with possible frauds. Be careful. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) does not make phone calls to verify or request financial information so that you can receive your payment faster.
 - You do not share any personal information or your bank account number with anyone who says they can help you receive your payment faster.
 - Be careful with a request for information or money through fraudulent email, text message, websites, or through social media.