

## CARES Act Payments

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act provided for the IRS to send payments of up to \$1,200 per individual or \$2,400 per married couple with an additional \$500 for each child under 17 years old. These payments are called “Economic Income Payments.”

### Who is eligible?

U.S. citizens or resident aliens who: 1) have a valid Social Security number, 2) could not be claimed as a dependent of another taxpayer, and 3) had adjusted gross income under \$75,000 (single), \$112,500 (Head of Household) or \$150,000 (married filing jointly).

Taxpayers will receive a reduced payment if their AGI is between:

- \$75,000 and \$99,000 if their filing status was single or married filing separately
- 112,500 and \$136,500 for head of household \$150,000 and
- \$198,000 if their filing status was married filing jointly

### How much is it worth?

If your adjusted gross income was less than \$75,000 (individual), \$112,500 (head of household) or \$150,000 (married filing jointly), you are eligible for the full \$1,200 per individual or \$2,400 per married couple with an additional \$500 for each child under 17 years old. If you made more than \$75,000/\$112,500/\$150,000, your payment is reduced by \$5 for every \$100 over you made. The amount of the reduced payment will be based upon your adjusted gross income.

### Who is Not Eligible?

Taxpayers likely won't qualify for an Economic Impact Payment if any of the following apply:

- Your adjusted gross income is greater than
  - \$99,000 if your filing status was single or married filing separately
  - \$136,500 for head of household
  - \$198,000 if your filing status was married filing jointly
- You can be claimed as a dependent on someone else's return. For example, this would include a child, student or older dependent who can be claimed on a parent's return.
- You do not have a valid Social Security number.
- You are a nonresident alien.
- You filed Form 1040-NR or Form 1040NR-EZ, Form 1040-PR or Form 1040-SS for 2019.

### How do I get paid?

It all depends on if and how you have filed your taxes in the past.

#### **A. If you filed a tax return in 2018 or 2019 AND got your return through direct deposit,**

You don't have to do anything. The IRS will deposit your money in the last bank account you included on your last tax filing. You can check on your payment at <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment>.

**B. If you filed a tax return in 2018 or 2019 AND DID NOT provide a bank account for direct deposit,**

The IRS will send a check to your last known address. It is expected that the issuing of physical checks will take longer than direct deposit. You can update your address or provide information to get your payment through direct deposit at: <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment>. We recommend signing up for direct deposit so that you get your payment sooner.

**C. If you filed a tax return in 2018 or 2019 AND used a tax preparation service/software and had the costs related to preparation/filing your return deducted from your return,**

Depending on the details of how the program you used works, you may be getting a physical check. You can check whether you are signed up for direct deposit at: <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment>. We recommend signing up for direct deposit so that you get your payment sooner.

**D. If you didn't file a tax return in 2018 or 2019,**

You may still be eligible for an Economic Income Payment. To find out about whether you are eligible and what information you need to provide, go to <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here>. To sign up, go to <https://www.freefilefillableforms.com/#/fd/EconomicImpactPayment>.

The IRS has announced that it will send a letter to your last known address within 15 days of sending your payment.

## **Beware of Scams**

The IRS is warning:

The IRS urges taxpayers to be on the lookout for scam artists trying to use the economic impact payments as cover for schemes to steal personal information and money.

**Remember, the IRS will not call, text you, email you or contact you on social media asking for personal or bank account information – even related to the economic impact payments.** Also, watch out for emails with attachments or links claiming to have special information about economic impact payments or refunds.