

Coronavirus Economic Impact Payment FAQ's

Who is eligible to receive the economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check)?

Any person that has a valid Social Security number (SSN), is not considered as a dependent of someone else, and whose adjusted gross income (AGI) does not exceed certain thresholds is eligible to receive the credit. This means workers, those receiving welfare benefits, Social Security beneficiaries, and others are all eligible.

- Spouses of military members are eligible without a SSN.
- An adopted child can use an Adoption Tax Identification Number to be eligible.

How much money will those eligible for the economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check) receive?

The full credit amount (\$1,200 individuals, \$2,400 couples, \$500 for children) is available for individuals with Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) at or below \$75,000 (\$112,500 for heads of household), and couples with Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) at or below \$150,000. If you have children, you will receive an additional \$500 per child.

Your tax rebate amount will be reduced by \$5 for each \$100 your AGI exceeds the above thresholds.

This means—

- An individual without children will not receive any rebate if their AGI exceeds \$99,000,
- A couple without children will not receive any rebate if their AGI exceeds \$198,000, and
- A family of four will not receive any rebate if their AGI exceeds \$218,000.

How will the IRS determine who receives an economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check) and how much will that payment will be?

For those that have filed a return with the IRS in 2018 or 2019, the IRS will use the most recent tax return to determine eligibility.

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Does the economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check) need to be repaid?

Unless obtained by fraud, rebate checks do not need to be repaid. If an individual experienced an income loss in 2020 or if they have an increase in family size, they may be able to claim an additional credit of the difference when the individual files their 2020 tax federal income tax return in Spring of 2021.

The IRS does not have my direct deposit information for the economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check). What can I do?

<u>Treasury's web-based portal</u> for individuals to provide their banking information to the IRS will be available in mid-April so individuals can receive payments immediately as opposed to checks in the mail.

For more information, you can visit the IRS website: https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payment-information-center.

Can I receive an economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check) if I are claimed as a dependent on another taxpayer's tax return?

Someone who is claimed as a dependent on another taxpayer's tax return is not eligible to receive the \$1,200 refund check themselves.

Can I receive a \$500 child credit for a dependent claimed on my tax return if that child is 17 or older?

No. Children 17 and older are not eligible for the \$500 per child tax credit.

Are non-tax filers eligible to receive an economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check)?

Yes. For those with taxable income, you will need to file a tax return for the 2019 tax year, which you can do until July 15. Those with little or no taxable income are encouraged to use the IRS' Free File Program which can be viewed <u>here</u>.

Other than Social Security beneficiaries (retirement and disability), individuals with no taxable income will be able to file a simple form provided by the IRS specifically for the purpose of receiving the rebate check. The IRS's simple form is here and includes more information.

How can Social Security beneficiaries who are not typically required to file a tax return receive an economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check)?

Social Security retirement and disability beneficiaries do not need to file to receive their rebate. The IRS has worked directly with the Social Security Administration to obtain information needed to send out the rebate checks the same way Social Security benefits are paid.

How can non-tax filers receive an economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check)?

Individuals can use the simple form provided on IRS.gov <u>here</u> or can also use the forms available from private sector tax preparers via the IRS Free File Program, which is accessible <u>here</u>. Additionally, some private sector tax preparers are providing the simple form for free through their regular commercial products.

Will someone who is homeless be eligible for an economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check)? If so, how/where will the IRS direct the payment?

The Treasury Department is aware of the challenges reaching some citizens, such as those that are homeless, and they are working on solutions to ensure that everyone eligible is able to obtain a rebate check. We await formal guidance from Treasury on how they will go about this as well.

Are the rebate checks considered taxable income?

The credit is not taxable, consistent with other refundable tax credits.

Will the economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check) affect my eligibility for federal programs, like Supplemental Security Income?

No, the rebate is considered a tax refund and is not counted towards eligibility for federal programs for either income or asset test purposes.

Could my economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check) be offset by any outstanding money owed to the government?

The rebate checks are not subject to the majority of offsets, including student debt and state debts. The only administrative offset that will be enforced applies to those who have past due child support payments that the states have reported to the Treasury Department.

Can families with children born in 2019 or 2020 receive the \$500 child credit?

Yes, but action is required.

A family with a child born in 2019 is eligible for the \$500 per child rebate amount (assuming all other requirements are satisfied). If the family has not yet filed a 2019 tax return, the IRS will determine the family's rebate amount based on their 2018 tax return filing. As a result, the family will not automatically receive the \$500 rebate amount for the child born in 2019. To receive the credit the family can either:

- Claim the \$500 credit on their 2020 tax return filing made in 2021, or
- File their 2019 tax return quickly with the child's SSN and receive the \$500 in the rebate check sooner.

Likewise, a family with a child born in 2020 is eligible for the \$500 per child rebate amount. The family will be able to claim the \$500 credit on their 2020 tax returns filed in 2021.

Will I receive a mailed letter from the IRS regarding the economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check)?

For security reasons, the IRS plans to mail a letter about the economic impact payment to the taxpayer's last known address within 15 days after the payment is paid. The letter will provide information on how the payment was made and how to report any failure to receive the payment. If a taxpayer is unsure they're receiving a legitimate letter, the IRS urges taxpayers to visit www.IRS.gov first to protect against scam artists.

If I want more information on the economic impact payment (stimulus rebate check)?

For more information, you can visit the IRS website: <u>https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payment-information-center</u>.