



## THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

### What You Need to Know About IRS Economic Impact Payments

**I heard the US government is giving eligible Americans \$1,200 each. Is that true?**

Yes, it is. The government passed a law to give people a financial boost during this crisis.

**How much can we get?**

You'll get:

- \$1,200 for each eligible adult
- \$500 for each eligible child (under 17)

**How will I get my payment?**

The IRS will automatically send payments to people who:

- Filed tax returns in 2018 or 2019,
- Received a form SSA-1099 (Social Security recipients), or
- Received a form RRB-1099 (railroad retirees).

If you did not file a tax return, you may need to do so or to use the IRS's non-filer portal to get a payment for eligible children.

**What if I don't usually file a tax return?**

If you don't usually file or are not required to file a tax return, you should provide payment information on the IRS online portal at <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here>

**Can I get help filing my taxes?**

Yes. You can:

- Use this free IRS service: <https://www.irs.gov/filing/free-file-do-your-federal-taxes-for-free>
- Complete a paper tax form: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040.pdf>. The IRS is not currently processing paper tax forms, so file by paper only as a last resort.

**When will I get my money?**

The IRS has already started sending payments through direct deposit. Checks will start going out at the end of April or beginning of May.

**Does getting a payment affect my eligibility for benefits?**

No. The payment is not counted as income. Also, it will not count towards the resource limit if you spend it within 12 months, or deposit it in an educational savings or retirement account.

### **Who can I call if I have questions about my eligibility for a payment?**

Call Vermont Legal Aid at 1-800-889-2047. Please do not call the Department for Children and Families with questions about economic impact payments.

### **Where can I learn more?**

Go to:

- <https://vtlawhelp.org/coronavirus-economic-impact-stimulus-payments>
- [IRS.gov/coronavirus](https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus)

### **What if someone tries to contact me about my payment?**

We are very concerned about scammers trying to take advantage of people. Please be very cautious. The IRS will not call asking you to verify or provide financial information so you can get a payment faster.

- DON'T provide your personal information or bank account number to anyone who says they can help get your payment faster.
- Watch out for fraudulent emails, text messages, websites and social media attempts that ask for money or personal information.

Go to [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov) for more information about scams.