



January 14, 2021

Second Round of Coronavirus Economic Impact Payments

Congress has authorized another round of stimulus checks, called Economic Impact Payments (EIPs), in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Who is eligible for EIPs?

The new payments are available to many people, even people who do not make enough money to be required to file tax returns. Like the previous round of EIPs, people who are undocumented, lack Social Security numbers, file with an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN), or adults who were claimed as dependents on another's taxes are not eligible.

However, Congress changed eligibility for the new payments and retroactively changed eligibility for the previous round of payments to ensure that people in mixed immigration status families who have Social Security numbers can receive payments (if both parents utilize ITINs, children with Social Security numbers will not be eligible for the child credit). In addition, if an individual was claimed as a dependent in 2019, but was not a dependent in 2020, they can file their 2020 tax return and claim both stimulus checks.

How much is the second payment?

\$600 for individuals and \$1,200 for married couples who filed jointly. There is a \$600 supplemental credit per child age 16 or younger. People whose adjusted gross income was less than \$75,000 for a single individual or \$150,000 for married filing jointly are eligible for the full payment. The payment is gradually reduced for incomes above those levels, tapering off altogether at \$99,000 for individuals and \$198,000 for couples.

Do asset and income limits apply to these payments?

No. Because these payments are like tax rebates, they "shall not be taken into account as resources for a period of 12 months from receipt, for purposes of determining the eligibility of such individual (or any other individual) for benefits or assistance (or the amount or extent of benefits or assistance) under any Federal program or under any State or local program financed in whole or in part with Federal funds" (26 U.S. Code § 6409). This means that people with disabilities can accept these payments without putting Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and other benefits at risk.

Do people have to file their taxes to get the payment?

Only some people. The majority of payments will be issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) automatically to the bank account or address that the IRS has on file. This includes payments to most people on Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). If an

individual filled out the non-filer form in order to receive the first payment automatically or to add their dependent children, they should be paid automatically again. People can check on their payment here: <https://sa.www4.irs.gov/irfof-wmsp/>. Payments are being sent out through the first two weeks of January, but checks mailed out may take slightly longer. Sometimes, payments are being made for individuals and then an additional payment is being made for dependents. If people have not received their checks by the end of January, they may wish to file a tax return and claim their payments that way. Many low-income individuals may also be eligible for other tax credits, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit or the Child Tax Credit, even those who are not required to file a tax return.

Do people on Social Security or SSI need to file a tax return or fill out a form?

People on Social Security and SSI should receive a check automatically and do not need to file a tax return unless they did not receive a payment in the first round of stimulus. People on Social Security or SSI who have dependent children under the age of 17 who did not previously receive a payment for those children may want to file a tax return to claim credits for those children.

Please visit <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus-tax-relief-and-economic-impact-payments> for the most up-to-date information.