

Economic Impact Payments for Social Security and SSI Recipients – Steps to Take and Schedule of Payments

A Message to the Social Security Beneficiaries and Supplemental Security Income Recipients:

This document provides information for Social Security beneficiaries (retirement, survivors, disability) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients related to economic impact payments being issued to eligible individuals.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), not the Social Security Administration (SSA), will send all payments electronically or paper checks by mail. We documented for you different scenarios to help explain what actions, if any, you may need to take to receive your economic impact payment and any payment for a [qualifying child](#). **However, only the IRS can answer questions you may have about your personal or family situation. Please do not call SSA with your payment questions.** Visit www.irs.gov/coronavirus for the latest information available.

You can find the information you need by following these steps:

1. Locate the blue text that describes which monthly benefit you receive and when you started receiving benefits.
2. Look for the row that matches your situation whether you filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return, and whether you have any qualifying children.

If you need to take an action, please act quickly to get your payment or a payment for your [qualifying child](#).

If you received an economic impact payment for yourself less than \$1,200, you can read why at IRS' [Economic Impact Payment Information Center](#) and [Economic Impact Payments and the Treasury Offset Program](#) web pages.

Note: Do you have a representative payee and receive your monthly benefit payment by mail? We will share information about representative payees as soon as possible.

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Select the scenario below that best describes your situation to go directly to the page to help you:

I began receiving Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability (SSDI) benefits BEFORE January 1, 2020 and...

[I filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return and I do **not** have a qualifying child](#) (p. 3)

[I filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return and I **do** have a qualifying child](#) (p. 3)

[I did **not** file 2019 or 2018 tax return and I do **not** have a qualifying child](#) (p. 4)

[I did **not** file a 2019 or 2018 tax return and I **do** have a qualifying child](#) (p. 4)

I began receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) BEFORE January 1, 2020 and...

[I filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return and I do **not** have a qualifying child](#) (p. 5)

[I filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return and I **do** have a qualifying child](#) (p. 5)

[I did **not** file 2019 or 2018 tax return and I do **not** have a qualifying child](#) (p. 6)

[I did **not** file a 2019 or 2018 tax return and I **do** have a qualifying child](#) (p. 6)

I began receiving Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability (SSDI) benefits or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) ON or AFTER January 1, 2020 and...

[I filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return and I do **not** have a qualifying child](#) (p. 7)

[I filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return and I **do** have a qualifying child](#) (p. 7)

[I did **not** file 2019 or 2018 tax return and I do **not** have a qualifying child](#) (p. 7)

[I did **not** file a 2019 or 2018 tax return and I **do** have a qualifying child](#) (p. 7)

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I began receiving Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability (SSDI) benefits BEFORE January 1, 2020.

I filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return...	...and I have at least one qualifying child.	What action must I take to receive my \$1,200 payment?	What action must I take to receive each \$500 payment per qualifying child?	When and how will I receive my \$1,200 payment?	When and how will I receive each \$500 child payment?
Yes	No	No action required by you.	n/a	<p>The IRS began issuing electronic economic impact payments on or about April 15 to people who received a tax refund electronically, and to the same account as the tax refund.</p> <p>If you did not get an electronic refund or no refund, the IRS will send your payment by mail. Payments will be issued on a staggered basis beginning in late April. You may be able to use the IRS' Get My Payment tool to provide or update your bank information to receive an electronic payment more quickly.</p>	n/a
Yes	Yes	No action required by you.	No action required by you.	Same as above.	\$500 child payments will be issued as part of the same payment as “ <i>When and how will I receive my \$1,200 payment?</i> ” in the row above. You will only receive \$500 for a qualified child listed on your tax return. For a child <u>not listed</u> on your tax return, you <u>must wait</u> to file a tax year 2020 tax return to receive the \$500 payment.

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I began receiving Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability (SSDI) benefits BEFORE January 1, 2020:

I filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return...	...and I have at least one qualifying child.	What action must I take to receive my \$1,200 payment?	What action must I take to receive each \$500 payment per qualifying child?	When and how will I receive my \$1,200 payment?	When and how will I receive each \$500 child payment?
No	No	No action required by you.	n/a	You should receive your payment by the end of April in the same way you receive your Social Security benefit.	n/a
No	Yes	No action required by you.	You needed to use the IRS' Non-Filer: Enter Payment Info Here tool by April 22 to receive \$500 for each qualified child.	You should receive your payment by the end of April in the same way you receive your Social Security benefit.	<p>If the IRS did <u>not</u> already process your \$1,200 payment, <u>and</u> you entered your and your children's information into the tool by April 22, you should receive each \$500 child payment by the end of April <u>at the same time</u> as your \$1,200 individual payment. If the IRS <u>already</u> processed your \$1,200 payment, <u>or</u> if you missed the April 22 deadline, you <u>must wait</u> to file a tax year 2020 tax return to receive the additional \$500 per qualifying child. Your \$1,200 payment is not affected.</p> <p>Direct Express Card Holders: If you used the Non-Filer tool by the April 22 deadline, and if you left the bank account information blank, you will receive your and your children's combined payment amount by paper check in the mail.</p>

Economic Impact Payments for Social Security and SSI Recipients – Steps to Take and Schedule of Payments
I began receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) BEFORE January 1, 2020:

I filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return...	...and I have at least one qualifying child.	What action must I take to receive my \$1,200 payment?	What action must I take to receive each \$500 payment per qualifying child?	When and how will I receive my \$1,200 payment?	When and how will I receive each \$500 child payment?
Yes	No	No action required by you.	n/a	<p>The IRS began issuing electronic economic impact payments on or about April 15 to people who received a tax refund electronically, and to the same account as the tax refund.</p> <p>If you did not get an electronic refund or no refund, the IRS will send your payment by mail. Payments will be issued on a staggered basis beginning in late April. You may be able to use the IRS' Get My Payment tool to provide or update your bank information to receive an electronic payment more quickly.</p>	n/a
Yes	Yes	No action required by you.	No action required by you.	Same as above.	<p>\$500 child payments will be issued as part of the same payment as “<i>When and how will I receive my \$1,200 payment?</i>” in the row above. You will only receive \$500 for a qualified child listed on your tax return. For a child <u>not listed</u> on your tax return, you <u>must wait</u> to file a tax year 2020 tax return to receive the \$500 payment.</p>

Economic Impact Payments for Social Security and SSI Recipients – Steps to Take and Schedule of Payments
I began receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) BEFORE January 1, 2020:

I filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return...	...and I have at least one qualifying child.	What action must I take to receive my \$1,200 payment?	What action must I take to receive each \$500 payment per qualifying child?	When and how will I receive my \$1,200 payment?	When and how will I receive each \$500 child payment?
No	No	No action required by you.	n/a	You should receive your payment in early May in the same way you receive your SSI payment.	n/a
No	Yes	No action required by you.	You must use the IRS' Non-Filer: Enter Payment Info Here tool by May 5 to receive \$500 for each qualified child now.	You should receive your payment in early May in the same way you receive your SSI payment.	You must enter information in the IRS' Non-Filer tool by May 5 to receive the \$500 payment for a qualifying child now, or you must wait to file a tax year 2020 tax return to receive the \$500 payment. Act now! Your \$1,200 payment is not affected if you miss the deadline, but we strongly encourage you to act now. Direct Express Card Holders: You may use the Non-Filer tool, but you will not receive your \$1,200 payment on your Direct Express card. You will receive both your \$1,200 payment and each child's \$500 payment on a non-Direct Express bank account you can provide, or by mail if you leave bank information empty.

Economic Impact Payments for Social Security and SSI Recipients – Steps to Take and Schedule of Payments **I began receiving Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability (SSDI) benefits or Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** **ON or AFTER January 1, 2020:**

If you filed a tax return for 2019 or 2018:

The IRS began issuing electronic economic impact payments on or about April 15 to people who received a tax refund electronically, and to the same account as the tax refund.

If you did not get an electronic refund or no refund, the IRS will send your payment, and payment for any qualifying children listed on your tax return, by mail at the same time. Payments will be issued on a staggered basis beginning in late April. You may be able to use the IRS' [Get My Payment tool](#) to provide or update your bank information to receive an electronic payment more quickly. For a child not listed on your tax return, you must wait to file a tax year 2020 tax return to receive the \$500 payment.

If you did not file a tax return for 2019 or 2018:

Social Security beneficiaries and SSI recipients in this category may use the IRS' [Non-Filer: Enter Payment Info Here tool](#) to receive their own \$1,200 payment and \$500 payment for qualifying children. You may only enter non-Direct Express bank account information for direct deposit, or leave bank information empty to receive a paper check by mail.

What is a “qualifying child”?

The IRS lists rules for the qualifying child applicable to the Child Tax Credit. The child qualifies if the child:

- Is your son, daughter, stepchild, eligible foster child, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother, half-sister, or a descendant of any of them (e.g., your grandchild, niece, or nephew).
- Was under age 17 at the end of 2019.
- Did not provide over half of his or her own support for 2019.
- Lived with you for more than half of 2019
- Is claimed as a dependent on your return.
- Does not file a joint return for the year (or files it only to claim a refund of withheld income tax or estimated tax paid).
- Was a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or U.S. resident alien.

The CARES Act also requires the qualifying child have a valid Social Security Number or an Adoption Taxpayer Identification Number (ATIN).