



Where is my check? An Economic Impact Payment primer for constituents

What makes a constituent eligible for an Economic Impact Payment (EIP)?

EIP1 (\$1,200): Filed tax returns for 2018 or 2019, used non-filer tool, or has information on file with SSA or VA

EIP2 (\$600): Filed tax return for 2019, or has information on file with SSA or VA

EIP3 (\$1400): Filed tax return for 2019 or 2020, or has information on file with SSA or VA*

*It is important to note that the income threshold for EIP3 was lowered. Learn more about this and other eligibility requirements [here](#).

What circumstances prevent constituents from receiving their EIP?

- 2019 return did not process (or they didn't file) and they have not filed for 2020
- 2020 return did not process (or they haven't filed) and they didn't file for 2019
- They do not file taxes, did not use the non-filer tool for EIP1, and do not have information on file with another agency such as SSA or VA

Another thing to note: If eligible constituents do not have direct deposit information on file with any federal agency (this is usually the case for taxpayers who file paper returns), then they will receive their EIP in a check or debit card. The IRS has just started sending these out, so it is important for them to check their Get My Payment tool often for updates.

What if they didn't receive EIP1 or EIP2?

They must claim the Recovery Rebate Credit on line 30 of their 2020 tax return. Ideally, they should file electronically with direct deposit information to receive their refund faster. If they do not typically file a return, they must do so in order to claim the credit, even if they only claim \$1.

Can they claim EIP3 with the Recovery Rebate Credit, too?

No.

Additional Resources:

[Where's My Refund](#): Available through IRS.gov. Allows constituents to track the status of their returns.

[Get My Payment](#): Also available through IRS.gov. Allow constituents to track the status of their stimulus payments.

[EIP FAQ](#): Refer to this for more information.

Note that resources on the IRS website update constantly as returns process and payments are scheduled. Constituents should check these frequently, especially if they believe they are eligible for an EIP.

A handy flowchart:

Did not receive EIP1 or EIP2 → Claim the Recovery Rebate Credit on line 30 of your 2020 return.

Did not receive EIP3 → Files taxes → 2019 or 2020 return has processed → Should be eligible for EIP3.

Did not receive EIP3 → Files taxes → 2019 return has not processed, did not file for 2020 yet → May not receive EIP3 → Contact our office and we can submit a formal inquiry to the IRS on your behalf.

Did not receive EIP3 → Files taxes → Did not file for 2019, 2020 return has not processed → May not receive EIP3 → Contact our office and we can submit a formal inquiry to the IRS on your behalf.

Did not receive EIP3 → Non-filer → Used non-filer tool for EIP1 → Should receive EIP3 starting April 7th.

Did not receive EIP3 → Non-filer → Bank account or address on file with SSA or VA → Should receive EIP3 starting April 7th.

Helping the Homeless, Unbanked, Underserved and Others Claim the 2020 Recovery Rebate Credit and Get Economic Impact Payments

Key Points:

Following are information and resources people can use to assist others in getting stimulus monies.

To date, there have been three rounds of Economic Impact Payments also known as stimulus payments. The first two rounds have been completed, payments for the third round are ongoing.

If someone didn't receive a first or second round Economic Impact Payment, or got less than the full amount they're entitled to, they will need to file a 2020 tax return and claim the [2020 Recovery Rebate Credit](#), if eligible, to receive a refund including any stimulus amounts. This is true even if someone has little or no income and is not required to file a federal tax return.

Filing a 2020 return will also put someone in the "queue" for the [Third Economic Impact Payment](#) if eligible.

Here are some options for getting help with filing a 2020 tax return:

- If someone has or can be provided access to the internet, they can use one of the [IRS Free-File](#) partners to electronically file a 2020 tax return and claim their credit for free.
- People can call 800-906-9887 or use our [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Site Locator](#) tools to find somewhere local to get free tax help. Or,
- They can file a paper [Form 1040](#) or [Form 1040-SR](#) and claim the [2020 Recovery Rebate Credit](#) on line 30. The [Instructions for Forms 1040 and 1040-SR](#) provide information starting on page 57 on how to calculate and claim the credit. Those without a fixed address may be able to use the address of a local community organization, church or homeless shelter.

To help people establish bank accounts and obtain an Economic Impact Payment by direct debit, or to cash an EIP check, the FDIC has a [Get Banked](#) page on its website. It contains information on how to establish a basic account, including a "checkless" account accessed by debit card, and resources for finding a bank that will open an account online.

For veterans, see the VA's [Veterans Benefits Banking Program \(VBBP\)](#) page for access to financial services at participating banks. See also, [VeteransBenefitsBanking.org](#).

In addition, [211 United Way Worldwide](#) is a free and confidential service that helps people across North America find the local resources they need 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A toll-free call to 211 connects you to a community resource specialist in your area who can put you in touch with local organizations that provide services. You can also contact United Way's 211 Economic Impact Payment Helpline by calling (844) 322-3639 for assistance. There may be similar charitable service providers in your district and state.

On the IRS website see, [2020 Recovery Rebate Credit Frequently Asked Questions](#), in particular [Recovery Rebate Credit — Topic A: Claiming the Recovery Rebate Credit if you aren't required to file a tax return](#). Other FAQ categories provided include:

- [Topic B: Eligibility](#)
- [Topic C: Claiming the Credit](#)
- [Topic D: Calculating the Credit](#)
- [Topic E: Receiving the Credit](#)
- [Topic F: Finding the First and Second Economic Impact Payment amounts to calculate the 2020 Recovery Rebate Credit](#)
- [Topic G: Correcting issues after the 2020 tax return is filed](#)

Please share this message, but not my contact information, with taxpayers, local officials and agencies, community organizations and other stakeholders in your district and state. If shared information generates questions, direct them to [IRS.gov](#) or your office can contact me.

IRS Social Media Resources:

Social Media Platforms

IRS on Twitter	IRS on Facebook, Instagram & LinkedIn	IRS on YouTube
@IRSnews @IRSenEspanol @IRSSmallBiz @IRSTaxSecurity @IRSTaxPros	Facebook.com/IRS Facebook.com/IRSenEspanol Instagram.com/irsnews LinkedIn.com/company/irs	YouTube.com/irsvideos YouTube.com/irsvideosmultilingua YouTube.com/irsvideosASL

News and information

IRS e-News Subscriptions					
Newswire News Releases	Tax Tips	e-News for Small Businesses	e-News for Tax Exempt Organizations	e-News for Tax Professionals	IRS Outreach Connection

IRS Online:

On IRS.gov See					
Help	Tax Questions	File	Refunds	Pay	Tools

IRS.gov In					
Spanish	Chinese	Korean	Russian	Vietnamese	

IRS2Go Mobile App:

Check your refund status, make a payment, find free tax preparation assistance, follow IRS on Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram, watch helpful videos on YouTube, subscribe to receive IRS Tax Tips, and more! Also available in [Spanish](#).