

# 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](http://www.irs.gov/coronavirus) for the latest information available.

We have highlighted text in light red below and on other pages to help you see what information we updated since **May 7**.

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 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.

## **Do you have a representative payee or you are a representative payee?**

Since the IRS is processing payments automatically based on a filed tax return, and processing payments for people who use their Non-Filer Tool, these payments from the IRS could be made to someone with a representative payee. If you did not file a 2019 or 2018 tax return, and if you did not use the IRS' Non-Filer Tool, please refer to [“How will the IRS send my economic impact payment \(EIP\) if I have a representative payee?”](#) on this page. Please visit [www.ssa.gov/coronavirus/#reppayee](http://www.ssa.gov/coronavirus/#reppayee) on this page to learn more about economic impact payments and representative payees.

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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)

# 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 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' <a href="#">Get My Payment tool</a> 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.

# 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 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 have received your \$1,200 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' <a href="#">Non-Filer: Enter Payment Info Here tool</a> by April 22 to receive \$500 for each qualified child.	You should have received your \$1,200 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 have received 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><b>Direct Express Card Holders:</b> 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' <a href="#">Get My Payment tool</a> 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.

## 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	Same as below.	n/a
No	Yes	No action required by you.	You needed to use the IRS' <a href="#">Non-Filer: Enter Payment Info Here tool</a> by May 5 to receive \$500 for each qualified child without having to wait until next year.	You should receive your \$1,200 payment in the same way you receive your monthly SSI payment: Direct Deposit and Direct Express by May 13; Paper checks will begin May 15.	<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 May 5, you will receive each \$500 child payment with your \$1,200 payment by May 13 if you selected direct deposit in the tool. Mailed checks begin May 15. If the IRS <u>already</u> processed your \$1,200 payment, <u>or</u> if you missed the May 5 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><b>Direct Express Card Holders:</b> If you used the <i>Non-Filer Tool</i> to enter dependent information, you <u>will not</u> receive your automatic \$1,200 payment on your Direct Express card. You will receive both your \$1,200 payment and each child's \$500 payment in a non-Direct Express bank account you may have provided, or by mail if you left bank information empty, and only if the IRS did not already process your \$1,200 payment. If you did not use the <i>Non-Filer Tool</i>, you will receive your automatic \$1,200 payment on your Direct Express card, and you will need to file a tax return next year to get a \$500 payment per qualifying child.</p>

## **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).