



COVID-19 Direct Stimulus Payments

How much are the payments & who is eligible?

- Under the new Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, you may be eligible for a payment of \$1,200, as well as \$500 for each child under age 17.
- Generally, to qualify for the payment, you must have a Social Security number and not be claimed as a dependent by someone else.
- Children age 17 or 18, as well as college students age 19-23, are generally not eligible.

How will payments arrive?

- If you filed a tax return in 2018 or 2019, you do not need to take any action. Your payment will be sent by direct deposit to the bank account on your last tax return. If you did not provide direct deposit information, a check will be sent to the address you gave on your tax return.
- If you receive Social Security Retirement, Survivors, or Disability, your payment should arrive automatically by the same method in which you receive your benefits.

Who needs to give information to the IRS?

- If you did not file a tax return in 2018 or 2019, and do not receive Social Security benefits, you will not get a payment automatically. If you receive SSI or Veterans' benefits, you will not get your payment automatically. You can get a payment by giving the IRS your information at www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here. Do not give your information anywhere but the IRS website.
- TurboTax is not the official IRS website. TurboTax says individuals can "register" for the payment by filing a simple tax return, but some people who do this may have a problem. For example, if you claim dependents who have also been claimed by another person, the IRS could reject your tax return. If your return is rejected you may not get your payment. If the information on your tax return is not correct you may have to repay money to the IRS.

Will payments be garnished?

- Your payment will not be garnished for federal debts, such as back taxes or student loans, but may be garnished for unpaid child support. The payment may be garnished by someone who has a judgment against you, once it is in your bank account.

