



# DON'T MISS OUT

## A GUIDE TO 2021 ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENTS FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



### HELPING PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS CLAIM ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENTS THROUGH THE 2021 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

The American Rescue Plan was signed into law on March 11, 2021. This federal legislation includes a third Economic Impact Payment, or “stimulus check”, for many Americans. Most people experiencing homelessness are eligible to receive this financial benefit.

This guide provides information about the 2021 Economic Impact Payments for people experiencing homelessness. It includes answers to commonly asked questions and local resources to help people experiencing homelessness receive Economic Impact Payments if they are eligible. This guide also provides steps people experiencing homelessness can take if they were eligible for the first or second Economic Impact Payments in 2020 but did not receive them.

### AM I ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A 2021 ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENT?

ELIGIBLE	NOT ELIGIBLE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ I am a US Citizen or <a href="#">Resident Alien</a>.</li> <li>✓ I have a Social Security Number that is valid for employment (does not state “Not Valid for Employment”).</li> <li>✓ I file my taxes alone and my 2020 adjusted gross income is less than \$80,000<sup>1</sup> <u>or</u> my spouse and I file our taxes together and our income is less than \$160,000<sup>2</sup>.</li> <li>✓ No one else can claim me as a dependent on their 2020 federal income tax return.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ I am not a US citizen or <a href="#">Resident Alien</a>.</li> <li>✓ I do not have a Social Security Number or my Social Security card states “Not Valid for Employment”.</li> <li>✓ Someone else claimed me as a dependent on their 2020 tax return.</li> </ul>

This guide was prepared by the [Tucson Pima Collaboration to End Homeless](#) as a resource for homeless advocates and people experiencing homelessness in Pima County, Arizona. Information provided here is current as of March 24, 2021. This guide does not replace professional tax advice. Up to date information about the Economic Impact Payments is available at <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus>.

<sup>1</sup> Single filers with Adjusted Gross Income under \$75,000 are eligible for the full \$1,400 payment. Filers with Adjusted Gross Income between \$75,000 and \$80,000 are eligible for a partial payment.

<sup>2</sup> Joint filers with Adjusted Gross Income under \$150,000 are eligible for the full payment of \$1,400/person. Joint filers with Adjusted Gross Income between \$150,000 and \$160,000 are eligible for a partial payment.



# I'M ELIGIBLE HOW DO I GET MY ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENT?

I received an Economic Impact Payment in 2020.	I receive Social Security benefits (SSI or SSDI), Railroad Retirement, or VA Benefits.	I didn't receive 2020 Economic Impact Payments and don't receive SSI, SSDI, Railroad Retirement, or VA Benefits.
<p>Good news! You do not have to do anything to receive your 2021 Economic Impact Payment.</p> <p>If you received the 2020 payments by direct deposit to a bank account, your 2021 Economic Impact Payment will be sent automatically to the same bank account.</p> <p>If you received the 2020 payments on a pre-paid debit card by mail, your 2021 Economic Impact Payment will be automatically mailed to the same address on a new pre-paid debit card.</p> <p>You can check the status of your payment online using IRS Get My Payment: <a href="https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment">https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment</a>.</p>	<p>Good news! You do not have to do anything to receive your 2021 Economic Impact Payment.</p> <p>If you receive your benefit payments by direct deposit to a bank account, your 2021 Economic Impact Payment may be sent automatically to the same bank account.</p> <p>If you receive your benefit payments by mail, your 2021 Economic Impact Payment will be automatically sent on a pre-paid debit card to the same address that you received your 2020 Economic Impact Payment.</p> <p>You can check the status of your payment online using IRS Get My Payment: <a href="https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment">https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment</a>.</p> <p>*If you receive Social Security, Railroad Retirement, or VA benefits but you missed a payment and/or did not receive your economic impact payments in 2020, tax professionals recommend filing your 2020 income tax return to be sure you get any payments for which you are eligible.</p>	<p>If you did not receive 2020 Economic Impact Payments because you did not file a 2019 income tax return and did not sign up using the IRS Non-Filers Tool in 2020, you will have to file a 2020 federal income tax return in order to receive the 2021 Economic Impact Payment (even if you do not have income or are not legally required to file an income tax return).</p> <p>If your annual household income is \$66,000 or less, you can get free help filing your taxes through the United Way's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program at <a href="http://www.getyourrefund.org">www.getyourrefund.org</a> or <a href="http://www.unitedwaytucson.org/vita">www.unitedwaytucson.org/vita</a>. If your annual household income is less than \$72,000, you can file your income taxes online for free at <a href="http://www.irs.gov/freefile">www.irs.gov/freefile</a>.</p> <p>The deadline for filing your 2020 federal income tax return is May 17, 2021. After your income tax return is accepted by the IRS, you can check the status of your payment using IRS Get My Payment: <a href="https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment">https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment</a>.</p>

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# COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **I do not have a bank account. Can I still receive an Economic Impact Payment?**

If you do not have a bank account or if you did not provide your banking information when you filed your 2020 taxes, your Economic Impact Payment will be mailed to the address you provided when you filed your 2020 federal income tax return. The Economic Impact Payment will be provided on a pre-paid debit card.

## **How can I receive my Electronic Impact Payment if I do not have a bank account or a mailing address?**

Several local organizations will allow people experiencing homelessness to use their mailing address to receive mail. If you work with a social service agency regularly, ask them about using their mailing address.

Primavera Foundation provides mail service for any person experiencing homelessness in the Tucson area. If you would like to use Primavera Foundation's address to receive your Economic Impact Payment, visit the Homelessness Intervention & Prevention (HIP) Drop-In Center to sign up.

### **Visit Primavera HIP to Sign Up (Physical Address)**

811 S. Sixth Avenue  
Tucson, AZ 85701  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
9AM-12:30PM

### **Where to Have Your Mail Sent (Mailing Address)**

Your Name care of  
Primavera Foundation  
702 S. Sixth Avenue  
Tucson, AZ 85701

## **What if I was in jail or prison when the Economic Impact Payments were approved?**

You are still eligible to receive an Economic Impact Payment. The IRS cannot deny your Economic Impact Payment because you are or were incarcerated.<sup>3</sup> You are also eligible if you were hospitalized or in another institution and could not be claimed as a dependent on someone else's tax return.

## **I received my 2020 Economic Impact Payment on a pre-paid debit card. Will this year's payment come on the same card?**

If you are receiving your Economic Impact Payment on a pre-paid debit card (instead of by direct deposit to a bank account), you will receive a new pre-paid debit card in the mail. Your 2021 payment will not be added to the pre-paid debit card you received in 2020.

## **I heard that you do not have to file your taxes to receive the Economic Impact Payment. Is there another option for people who do not usually file their taxes?**

For the first round of Economic Impact Payments in 2020, the IRS allowed people who do not usually file income taxes to sign up for payments using an online "Non-Filers Tool". If you signed up for the first two Economic Impact Payments in 2020 using the "Non-Filers" tool, your information is still on file and your 2021 Economic Impact Payment will be sent to the same bank account or address used in 2020.

The IRS is not currently accepting new applications through the Non-Filers tool. As of the publication date of this guide, anyone who did not file their 2019 or 2020 income tax return and did not sign up using the Non-Filers Tool in 2020 will have to file a 2020 federal income tax return to receive the 2021 Economic Impact Payments. If the IRS re-opens the Non-Filers Tool, this guide will be updated at [www.tpch.net](http://www.tpch.net).

<sup>3</sup> Permanent injunction – Scholl v. Mnuchin, No. 20-CV-05309 (N.D. CA. October 14, 2020)



## Do I have to file a tax return even if I did not have any income in 2020?

If your annual household income is less than \$12,200 (single) or \$24,400 (married, filing jointly), you are not required by law to file an income tax return. If you had some income, it is always a good idea to file your income tax return so that you can receive a refund if you are eligible.

Even if you are not required by law to file a 2020 federal income tax return, you will have to file in order to receive the 2021 Economic Impact Payment if:

- ✓ You did not file a federal tax return in 2019.
- ✓ You did not sign up for the first or second Economic Impact Payments in 2020 using the IRS Non-Filer Tool.
- ✓ You were eligible for the first or second Economic Impact Payments but did not receive them, or you received less than you should have.
- ✓ You do not receive Social Security (SSI, SSDI), Railroad Retirement, or VA benefits.

If you did not receive one or both of the 2020 Economic Impact Payments but you were eligible to receive them, you will be able claim the [IRS Recovery Rebate Credit](#) to receive those payments when you file your 2020 income tax return.

## What information do I need to file my tax return?

To file your 2020 federal income tax return, you will need:

- ✓ Names, dates of birth, and social security number for every member of yourself, your spouse (if married, filing jointly) and any dependents.
- ✓ State-issued photo ID (drivers license, or State ID card) if using [www.getyourrefund.org](http://www.getyourrefund.org).
- ✓ If you had income, you will also need the 2020 tax forms sent to you by any sources of income (unemployment benefits, employer, SSI/SSDI or VA benefits, other miscellaneous income, etc.)

There are additional documents you will need if you attended college, received an inheritance, owned property, sold stock, or received your healthcare coverage through the federal health insurance Marketplace in 2021. For a full list, visit [https://digitalasset.intuit.com/DOCUMENT/A44724mxl/TurboTax\\_TaxPrepChecklist.pdf](https://digitalasset.intuit.com/DOCUMENT/A44724mxl/TurboTax_TaxPrepChecklist.pdf).

## I had income in 2020 but I did not receive a tax form from my employer. What do I do?

If you were employed in 2020 and have not received a tax statement (W-2) from your employer, you can contact your employer and request that they send them again. If you cannot get ahold of the employer or they do not provide you with new copies, you can request a copy of your tax transcript from the IRS at <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript>. At a minimum you will need the following information to get a transcript from the IRS by mail:

- ✓ Name and date of birth
- ✓ Social Security Number
- ✓ Mailing address from your most recent tax return

## I have a question that is not answered here. What should I do?

Find more information about Economic Impact Payments and other tax issues at <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus>.

# ONLINE RESOURCES

**CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR STIMULUS PAYMENT**

[www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment](http://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment)

Visit [GetYourRefund.org](http://GetYourRefund.org) to get free help from IRS-certified volunteers in your state.

GetYourRefund

**FREE TAX HELP**

For anyone earning up to \$66,000 annually

**VITA**

United Way

Real Human Support