

Low Income Taxpayer Clinic Bulletin

Rhode Island

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**LEGAL SERVICES** 

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Friday, April 10, 2020

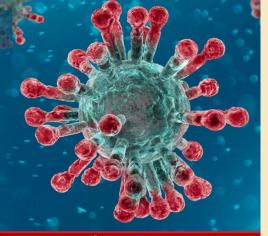
In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, U.S. residents will soon receive **Economic Impact Payments** of \$1,200 for individuals or head of household filers and \$2,400 for taxpayers who are married filing jointly.



The amount of the award is reduced for higher income individuals. The amount of the reduced payment is based on the taxpayers adjusted gross income.

Continue reading for answers to frequently asked questions.1

IRS has a special page dedicated to tax updates related to the coronavirus



Due to the

COVID-19

outbreak,

# www.irs.gov/coronavirus

# Visit the IRS Coronavirus Tax Relief page

1 Readers are encouraged to review the underlying information here and reminded that this bulletin is for informational purposes only. It does not create an attorney-client relationship.



# Who is eligible?

**WIRS** 

Taxpayers with adjusted

gross income up to:

- \$75,000 for individuals;
- \$112,500 for head of household filers; and
- \$150,000 for married couples filing joint returns.



**WIRS** 

Taxpayers will receive a reduced payment if their adjusted gross income is between:

- \$75,000 and \$99,000 if their filing status was single or married filing separately;
- \$112,500 and \$136,500 for head of household filers; and

• \$150,000 and \$198,000 if their filing status was married filing jointly.

In order to receive the payment, you **must have a Social Security number**. You **cannot be claimed as a dependent** on someone else's tax return and you **must be a U.S. resident.** 

#### I do not work, am I still eligible?

Yes! Also eligible are recipients of Social Security, Railroad Retirement, disability, or veterans benefits as well as taxpayers who do not earn enough money to file a tax return. This also includes those who have no income and those with income entirely from certain benefit programs, such as Supplemental Security Income benefits.

# What do I need to do?

**Most people do not need to do anything**. The IRS will use adjusted gross income and the direct deposit information on your 2019 tax return. If you have not filed for 2019, the IRS will use the information on your 2018 tax return.

# What if I receive Social Security benefits and do not normally file a tax return?

If you do not typically file a tax return because you receive Social Security, the **IRS will send the payment in the same manner** as you receive your benefit.



# What if I am a low-income earner and do not receive Social Security?

You may still be eligible, but **you may have to file a tax return.** Click the button below to find our more.

IRS: Do I Need to File a Tax Return?

# What if I do not normally file a tax return?

The IRS established a **web portal for taxpayers who are not required to file annual tax returns.** The portal allows you to submit your basic personal and financial information necessary to make sure you receive Coronavirus Economic Impact Payments. Find more info and the portal by clicking the button below.

#### **IRS: Non-Filers - Enter Your Payment Info Here**

### What happens next?

The **payments will be automatically sent to you**. Fifteen days after the IRS issues a payment, the **IRS will send you a letter confirming payment**. This letter will provide information about how the payment
was made and what you need to do if you did not receive a payment.

### <u>What if I never placed direct deposit information on</u> <u>my tax return?</u>

The IRS is working on a secure method to provide paper checks to those who do not use direct deposit. **More information will be provided, when available.** 



# **RESOURCES TO HELP YOU**

We all know someone who has been impacted by this crisis. If you need help, our Providence office can be reached at 401.274.2652 and our Newport office can be reached at 401.846.2264. If you'd like to help, <u>donate here</u>. Other useful resources are available below. You are not alone.



**Click the buttons below for other useful information:** 

Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)

US Department of Veteran Affairs

**Social Security Resource** 

**RI Coalition for the Homeless** 

RI Office of the Governor, Gina Raimondo

Medicare & Medicaid Resources

**United Way Rhode Island** 

IRS Coronavirus Tax Relief

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

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