



Supervisor Tony Buffington  
**Blue Ridge District**  
*NewsFlash*



## What You Need To Know About Federal COVID-19 Stimulus Payments

Sent: April 15, 2020

The Federal Government is about to distribute the COVID-19 stimulus payments that I'm sure you've heard about by now. For most of you, direct deposit payments will be automatic, and no further action is needed. This includes those who filed tax returns in 2018 and 2019, and most seniors and retirees. Click [here](#) and/or [here](#) for additional information and answers to your questions.

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## Economic Impact Payments

We will start sending payments to most Americans in April.

- Do not call
- Most people won't need to take any action
- Check back often for updates

[What you need to know about payments](#)



## Get My Payment

Use the IRS's Get My Payment button to:

- Check payment status
- Check payment method
- Provide additional information to ensure you receive a payment if qualified

### Do I Need To Take Action Or Do Anything?

#### **Those who filed a tax return for 2019 or 2018**

No additional action is needed by taxpayers who:

- have already filed their tax returns this year for 2019. The IRS will use this information to calculate the payment amount.
- haven't filed yet for 2019 but filed a 2018 federal tax return. For these taxpayers the IRS will use their information from 2018 tax filings to make the Economic Impact Payment calculations.

#### **Those who aren't typically required to file a tax return**

Social Security and Railroad Retirement recipients who are not typically required to file a tax return need to take no action. The IRS will use the information on the Form SSA-1099 and Form RRB-1099 to generate Economic Impact Payments of \$1,200 to these individuals even if they did not file tax returns in 2018 or 2019. Recipients will receive these payments as a direct deposit or by paper check, just as they would normally receive their benefits. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) recipients are also part of this group who don't need to take action.

For Social Security, Railroad retirees and SSDI who have qualifying children, they can take an additional step to receive \$500 per qualifying child.

There are other individuals such as low-income workers and certain veterans and individuals with disabilities who aren't required to file a tax return, but they are still eligible for the Economic Impact Payments. Taxpayers can check the IRS.gov tool - **Do I Need to File a Tax Return?** - to see if they have a filing requirement.

**If you don't have to file, use the "Non-Filers: Enter Payment Info Here" application to provide simple information so you can get your payment.**

### **What If I Don't Receive My Stimulus Payment?**

For security reasons, the IRS plans to mail a letter about the economic impact payment to the taxpayer's last known address within 15 days after the payment is paid. The letter will provide information on how the payment was made and how to report any failure to receive the payment. If a taxpayer is unsure they're receiving a legitimate letter, the IRS urges taxpayers to visit IRS.gov first to protect against scam artists.

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**Fraud Alert!**

**Avoid Scams Related To These Payments**

The IRS urges taxpayers to be on the lookout for scam artists trying to use the economic impact payments as cover for schemes to steal personal information and money. **Remember, the IRS will not call, text you, email you or contact you on social media asking for personal or bank account information – even related to the economic impact payments.** Also, watch out for emails with attachments or links claiming to have special information about economic impact payments or refunds.

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Be safe!



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