

## Final Days Push to File for Stimulus Checks

Those eligible who did not automatically receive their checks need to file. **Many of these individuals are among our most vulnerable.** Under the 2020 CARES Act, individuals can receive a one-time payment of up to \$1,200, with an additional \$500 available for each dependent. While most eligible Americans have already received their payments, **5 million eligible Americans** still have not filed and risk missing out.

**Deadline to file for Stimulus Payment: October 15, 2020.**

**Deadline to file for additional Dependent Credit: September 30, 2020**

**Who doesn't automatically receive the stimulus payment?** If a citizen has not filed a 2019 tax return or doesn't qualify for Social Security, they must fill out a special form with the IRS.

**Why do we need to reach those who didn't automatically receive payments?** Many eligible for stimulus checks who do not file a 2019 tax return and do not qualify for Social Security make less than the \$12,200 (or \$24,400 for joint filers), the minimum income for filing a tax return. These are our neighbors who are most vulnerable or hardest hit by the pandemic. Read more below under Notes<sup>1</sup>.

**What if I didn't receive my dependent credit in my stimulus check?** Those who already received the \$1,200 payment through the Social Security Administration or Veteran Affairs may not have received their dependent credit of \$500. These individuals can file for additional relief if they have qualifying dependents through the same IRS form. However, the deadline to apply for an additional dependent credit is **September 30<sup>th</sup>**.

**How can we reach those who haven't yet filed?**

1. Make information known on social media to raise awareness about these payments.
2. Reach out to friends, family, or neighbors who you think may be eligible for these payments. Make sure everyone you know has received their stimulus payment! Read more below under Notes<sup>2</sup>.

**What resources and information are available for folks who need to file with the IRS to receive their stimulus payments?** Filers just need 5 pieces of information:

- Full Name
- Date of Birth
- Mailing Address
- Email Address
- Social Security Number

**Where to Direct People for Assistance with the Process?** Go to **211 United Way Helpline**. Dial 211. Or click [United Way's Coronavirus Assistance page](#). For other resources please read more below under Notes<sup>3</sup>.

**Excellent short video** from the [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities](#): The Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin ([www.loppw.org](http://www.loppw.org)) used the Center for this document.

It is crucial that everyone eligible has the ability and opportunity to apply for this stimulus payment.

**October 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.**

## Notes

### <sup>1</sup> Why do we need to reach those who didn't automatically receive payments?

- It is estimated that 30-40 million Americans are at risk of being evicted from their home, and the average eviction judgement is \$600, meaning that these payments could save millions from eviction.
- This stimulus's widespread availability and accessibility makes it uniquely able to help those usually cut out from traditional government programs or other much-needed benefits. For example, black and Latinx folks make up 40% of those currently unemployed, but over 80% of unemployed people of color have no access to Unemployment Insurance. This means that this stimulus may be their only assistance while out of work.
- Finally, cash is uniquely able to help families in these unprecedented times by providing flexibility to cover a whole host of costs or needs. Simply put, these payments are a vital lifeline to millions of Americans, and we must help every qualifying American receive these payments.

### <sup>2</sup> How can we reach those who haven't yet filed?

- Advocate and advertise on social media to raise awareness about these payments, spread information about who qualifies for these payments, and give resources for those who would like to claim their stimulus payment.
- Reach out to friends, family, or neighbors who you think may be eligible for these payments. Make sure everyone you know has received their stimulus payment!

### <sup>3</sup>Where to Direct People for Assistance with the Process?

In addition to United Way, you can check out

- **Get It Back.** Get It Back has a user-friendly resource platform for those who need to file.
- **Getyourrefund.com** by Code for America. Check out their stimulus resource [Here](#).