

ALERT:

Economic Impact Payments

The American Rescue Plan is now law and the third round of economic impact payments, some call these stimulus payments, are officially on their way.

As before, scammers follow the headlines and will attempt to trick people out of their money or identities by pretending to be from the government. Some ways to spot a scammer:

- **Processing Fees** - If you are asked to pay anything up front to get your payment or to get it faster. There's no fee and form to fill out, and there's no way to get your payment faster.
- **Phone and Social Media Messages** - If you receive a call, email, text, or message on social media asking for your Social Security, bank account, or credit card number to process your payment. Do **NOT** share your personal information.
- **Phishing** – If you receive an email or text that looks like it is from the federal government and asks you to click on a link or open an attachment think twice. **DO NOT** click on the the link or open the attachment. Attachments and links can lead you to a fake website that can install harmful malware on your computer or phone and steal your personal information.

REMEMBER - The federal government will **NOT** contact you by phone, email, or social media at any time.

What You Can Do - Beginning March 15, you can check the “Get My Payment” tool on the IRS website to track the status of your economic impact payment. The tool will also let you know what type of payment to expect – direct deposit, mailed paper check, or mailed debit card. To check your payment [click here](#) or go to <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment>.

There are still millions of people who have not received the first or second payments and may not receive the third because the IRS does not have their account information or address. If you have not received the stimulus payments, you can still claim this financial relief, if eligible, but **YOUR MUST TAKE ACTION BY FILING A TAX RETURN OR FOR AN EXTENSION BY MAY 17, 2021.**

For a Guide to Economic Impact Payments in multiple languages, go to:

https://www.consumerfinance.gov/coronavirus/managing-your-finances/guide-economic-impact-payments/?_gl=1*1ahwhpz*_ga*MTk5MDc3OTMuMTYwOTk4Nzg5MA..*_ga_DBYJL30CHS*MTYxODMyMzI4OC43LjEuMTYxODMyMzI5Ni4w

To report a scam: Contact the Federal Trade Commission by [clicking here](#) or go to <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/media/avoid-covid-19-stimulus-payment-scams>.