\$600 Second Stimulus Check Calculator: Calculate How Much You Will Receive

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President Donald Trump signed a bill that includes \$900 billion in pandemic aid relief <u>on the 27th</u> <u>of December</u>. The legislative package includes a second round of economic impact payments, also referred to as stimulus checks, to help Americans who have been financially impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How much will each person receive?

- \$600 for individuals
- \$1,200 for married couples who file a joint tax return
- \$600 for each dependent child under the age of 17 (so a family of four whose income qualifies would receive a check for \$2,400)

Will everybody receive these payments?

No. These payments are intended to help middle- and working-class Americans and so there are income limitations based on your tax filing status. For single people, the payments are reduced for those with Adjusted Gross Incomes (AGI) above \$75,000. For married couples filing jointly, the phase-out begins at an AGI of \$150,000. For those filing as head of household, the reductions begin at \$112,500.

(Note: if you are single, widowed or divorced and claim a child as a dependent, you probably have been filing as a head of household.)

The payments are reduced by \$5 for every \$100 in AGI over the above limits. As a result, a single tax filer would see no payments if they have an AGI of \$87,000 or higher. For a married couple filing jointly with no children, their payment would phase out completely with an AGI of \$174,000.

Which tax year is used to determine eligibility?

Your 2019 tax return will be used to determine whether you're eligible for a stimulus payment. If you receive Social Security (either retirement or disability) but didn't file a return in 2019 (because you earn too little to be required to file), you'll also receive a stimulus check, based on the information sent to the IRS on 2019 forms SSA-1099 and RRB-1099.

Will 2020 tax returns affect the payments?

In some cases, yes. If based on your 2020 tax returns you would be entitled to a larger payment than calculated based on your 2019 returns, you will be eligible to receive the difference as a tax credit. Of course, this additional payment won't be available until 2020 returns are filed next year. But if the stimulus payment you are due is lower based on your 2020 income, you get to keep the higher payment that was sent to you based on your 2019 return.

Do you need to do anything to get your second stimulus check?

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is <u>emphasizing</u> that no action is required by eligible taxpayers for the second round of Economic Impact Payments (EIPs, or stimulus checks). Paper checks started being e mailed on Wednesday, December 30. <u>Read our answers to commonly asked stimulus check questions</u>.

Will there be a \$2,000 third stimulus check?

Maybe. The CASH Act bill, which included \$2,000 stimulus checks for qualifying individuals, passed in the House in December but was blocked from reaching the Senate floor by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky).

But with Democrats almost certainly taking a slim majority in the Senate, a third stimulus check is back on the table. On Tuesday, Joe Biden said that if Democrats Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock won their respective Senate races in Georgia, he would <u>send \$2,000 checks to</u> <u>qualifying Americans</u>. It's unclear if this would be an additional \$2,000 on top of the \$600 checks already sent out, or if Americans would be sent the difference between the two amounts.

If the \$2,000 stimulus check passes, how will I get my money?

<u>The IRS and Treasury Department say</u> if more legislation is passed that increases the stimulus check amount, "the Economic Impact Payments that have been issued will be topped up as quickly as possible."