

Economic Impact Payments

When Someone in Your Family Doesn't have a Social Security Number

What's New: A December 2020 law changed eligibility requirements for Economic Impact Payments (EIPs) and the Recovery Rebate Credit (RRC).

Eligibility: Income limits apply, but generally, you are eligible for the RRC on your 2020 tax return and the third EIP, paid in 2021, if you:

- › are a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien,
- › are not another taxpayer's dependent, and
- › have an SSN that is **valid for employment** (for the Recovery Rebate Credit) or a **valid SSN** (for the third Economic Impact Payment).

See which family members qualify for stimulus money if not everyone on your tax return meets the SSN requirements.



You're filing **with your spouse** but only one spouse meets the SSN requirements, then you can ...

- file, claim 2020 RRC for spouse with SSN and qualifying children with SSNs
- get the third EIP - separately after filing - for spouse with SSN and qualifying dependents* with SSNs



You're filing **with your spouse** and only one spouse meets the SSN requirements, but one is active military at any time during the taxable year, then you can ...

- file, claim 2020 RRC for both spouses and qualifying children with SSNs
- get the third EIP - separately after filing - for both spouses and qualifying dependents* with SSNs



You're filing **with your spouse** and neither spouse meets the SSN requirements, then ...

- neither spouse is eligible for the RRC
- but you can get the third EIP for each qualifying dependent* and must file a 2020 tax return to get it



You're filing **as single** and don't meet the SSN requirements, then ...

- you aren't eligible for the RRC
- but you can get the third EIP for each qualifying dependent* and must file a 2020 tax return to get it

**The third EIP is not restricted to children under 17. Your third payment will include up to \$1,400 for qualifying dependents with SSNs like college students, adults with disabilities, parents and grandparents.*

If you're eligible, take these steps to file a 2020 tax return, even if you don't normally file

- › You'll need the amounts of Economic Impact Payments already issued to you (and your spouse if you're filing jointly with your spouse). Look at your IRS Letters 1444 and 1444-B or the [IRS Online Account](#) tool.
- › For the fastest processing, **file electronically** and choose direct deposit. Filing a 2020 tax return allows you to:
 - › If you're eligible, claim the **2020 Recovery Rebate Credit**, if you didn't get a first or second Economic Impact Payment or got less than the full amount. The first and second Economic Impact Payments were advance payments of the 2020 Recovery Rebate Credit.
 - › Get the **third Economic Impact Payment** (up to \$1,400 per eligible person with a valid SSN on your return). If you're eligible, the IRS will issue this payment after your 2020 tax return is processed. Use [Get My Payment](#) on IRS.gov to check the status of this payment.