

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT STIMULUS PAYMENTS

COVID-19 FACT SHEET FOR SSI BENEFICIARIES

Am I eligible for a stimulus payment?

Most adults with low to moderate income, including those who receive SSI benefits, will receive a \$1200 economic impact payment or “stimulus payment”. Each partner in an SSI couple, will receive \$1200. Families may receive an additional \$500 for each child under 17 years old. The stimulus payment is not taxable.

When will I receive my stimulus payment?

If you receive SSI benefits, you can expect to receive your stimulus payment sometime between April and September, 2020. If you receive your SSI payment by direct deposit you may receive your payment earlier than a person who receives a check in the mail.

*If you are in one of the following groups, you **must register your information by May 5, 2020** with the Treasury Department at <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payments>. Look for “Non-filers: Enter Payment Info Here”.*

- New SSI beneficiary (since January 1, 2020) AND did not file a tax return in 2018 or 2019
- You have qualifying children under age 17 AND did not file an income tax return in 2018 or 2019

How will I receive my stimulus payment?

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), not the Social Security Administration, will send your payment electronically or you will receive a check by mail.

How will stimulus payment affect my SSI payment?

The stimulus payment will not change your SSI payment. Social Security Administration will not consider economic impact payments as income for SSI recipients, and the payments are **excluded** from resources for 12 months. After that time, the typical resource limits will apply (\$2,000 for an individual; \$3,000 for a couple).

How can I use an ABLE Account to stay within resource limits?

- If you became disabled before the age of 26, consider opening an ABLE Account. An ABLE Account allows you to save for Disability Related Expenses with no impact on your SSI, Medicaid or other benefits.
- For more information or to open an account, go to RI’s ABLE at <https://savewithable.com/ri/home.html> or the National Able Alliance at <https://savewithable.com/home.html>.

How will the stimulus payment affect my Medicaid?

- The stimulus payments will not change your Medicaid.

How will the stimulus payment affect my other benefits?

- The stimulus payment will not change SNAP benefits.
- The stimulus payment will not change HUD rental subsidies.

To the best of our knowledge, this information is accurate as of May 1, 2020. For updates or more information, visit the IRS website at <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payments> or the Social Security Administration website at <https://www.ssa.gov/coronavirus/>.



The Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities is the Rhode Island resource for benefits counseling and work incentives information. Learn more at www.sherlockcenter.org or contact Jeanne Fay at jfay@ric.edu or 401-456-4733.