

Federal Stimulus Fact Sheet

March 31, 2020

--**Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)**—Effective April 1-Dec 31, 2020, provides emergency paid sick leave and public health emergency leave for employees experiencing covid-19 related symptoms working for employers with less than 500 employees. Emergency sick leave is capped at \$511 per day or \$5,110 total.

--**Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)**

- Signed into law on March 27; \$2 trillion stimulus includes provisions for:
- Increase UI payments by \$600/week; extends UI benefits from 13 to a cap of 39 weeks
- Allows contractors/self-employed workers to qualify
- Direct payments of \$1,200 to individuals who earn <\$75,000 or <\$150,000 for joint returns and \$500 for each child.
- Suspends federal loans payments and involuntary collections efforts until September 30, 2020
- \$349 billion for small businesses (<500 employees), including loans up to \$10 million for wages, rent, mortgage interest, utilities, and other debt obligations.
- \$10 billion for SBA emergency grants of up to \$10k for immediate relief for operating costs

How do I know if I will get a stimulus check? What if I didn't file taxes or already receive Social Security?

Stimulus checks will be administered via direct deposit and will be based on a 2019 or 2018 tax return, or 2019 Social Security Statement. If you didn't file taxes or receive Social Security during those years, the IRS recommends filling out a 2018 tax return to receive payment. Link to Ways and Means FAQ: https://www.speaker.gov/sites/speaker.house.gov/files/CARES%20Act%20Rebates%20FAQ_0%20.pdf

What if I don't have direct deposit with the IRS?

Be on the lookout for a letter from the IRS with more details about how to receive your check.

I can't pay my mortgage. Does the stimulus package include protections for me?

If you have an FHA, USDA, VA, or Section 184 mortgage, or if your mortgage is backed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, you can request a 6 month forbearance on your payments, with a possible 6 month extension with no fees or interest. You should contact your mortgage lender directly to work out a plan.

I can't pay my rent. Will I be evicted?

If you can't pay rent and you live in public or assisted housing, or rent at a property whose owner has a federally-backed mortgage, you are eligible to receive eviction protection for 4 months. Additionally, property owners may not issue a 30-day eviction notice until after the moratorium ends. Communicate directly with your landlord to explain your situation. If your landlord does not comply with the eviction moratorium, you should contact the relevant federal agency that administers your housing program.

I'm a gig worker and I usually don't qualify for UI. Can I apply for UI?

Under the CARES Act, UI is made available for independent contractors and the self-employed.