

CCSA shares important information for families

2021 Child Tax Credit Available Now

Make sure you can get these funds for your children!

The 2021 **Child Tax Credit**¹ is here, helping to support most children and families in the United States. **The tax credit provides monthly payments between July 15,** 2021, and December 15, 2021, with a final lump sum to be delivered at tax time next year. Families whose income is not more than the maximum allowed and that filed taxes in 2019 or 2020 do not have to do anything to receive the tax credit. Families that did not file taxes, or get stimulus checks in 2020, will need to apply to receive the Child Tax Credit.

HOW IT WORKS

- The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will begin depositing or mailing monthly checks into the bank accounts of income-eligible, tax-filing families on July 15, 2021.
- The monthly per child checks are either \$250 for each child between ages 6 and 17 years of age, or \$300 for each child under 6 years old.
- A final payment will be sent to families at tax time next year. **Total payments will be \$3,000 for each child between 6 and 17 and \$3,600 for each child under 6.**
- Families that did not file income tax in 2019 or 2020 due to low wages **ARE** eligible for the tax credit.
- Non-filer families (those families that did not file taxes in the last two years) can apply for the tax credit through the Non-filer Sign-up Tool².
- Note: if you received Economic Impact Payments (often known as stimulus funds) in 2020, you do not need to sign up in this portal.



- Receiving the Child Tax Credit payments is not considered income for any family. Therefore, any other federal benefit amounts (SNAP, WIC, SSI, SSDI, TANF, Medicaid, Section 8 or Public Housing) will not change!
- A family can sign up at any time this year.

WHAT YOU NEED TO BEGIN

- ✓ Your name, exactly as it appears on your Social Security card.
- ✓ The Social Security number(s) or other taxpayer identification number issued by the IRS for you, your spouse, if applicable, and any children you will claim.
- ✓ An email address to help create your account on the Non-filers Sign-up tool. (Don't have an email address? Ask for help to get a free email address from your local CCR&R or housing program.)
- ✓ A trustworthy mailing address where you can receive the payments and anything the IRS may need to mail to you regarding your payments. You give can the address of a friend, relative, or a trusted organization (e.g. shelter, or transitional housing program).
- ✓ Or, if you have a bank account, have the bank's 9digit routing number along with your account number ready.

TO APPLY

- Confirm your eligibility to use the Non-filer Sign-up Tool:
 - You have children born before 2021 who are 17 years old or younger
 - You were not required to file a 2020 tax return, did not file one and do not plan to file a return; and
 - You have a main home in the United States (the 50 states and the District of Columbia) for more than half of the last year. The home can be any location where you regularly live and it does not need to be the same location throughout the taxable year. It can be a house, apartment, mobile home, shelter, temporary lodging, or other location. A person doesn't need a permanent address to get these payments. Also, if temporarily away from home because of illness, education, business, vacation, or military service, you are generally treated as living in the main home.
- Create an account by going to this website on a laptop or desktop computer: <u>https://www.freefilefillableforms.com/#/fd/childtax</u> <u>credit</u>.
- Follow these step-by-step instructions from the IRS in English³ or Spanish⁴.
- Use the Child Tax Credit Non-filer Sign-up Tool FAQs⁵ for answers to many of your questions.
- Once you have created an account, find the email with the next steps to apply for the tax credit.
- Check your email daily for any updates or next steps you need to take. Those emails will be your primary source of information.
- Visit <u>www.childtaxcredit.gov</u> or <u>www.whitehouse.gov/es/el-credito-tributario-por-</u><u>hijos/</u> for more information. Watch social media posts or ask local organizations if they are hosting any events if you need help to apply.
- Watch the mail (or your bank account) following the 15th of each month between July and December for your checks to arrive!



FOOTNOTES

- 1. https://www.whitehouse.gov/child-tax-credit/
- 2. <u>https://www.freefilefillableforms.com/#/fd/</u> <u>childtaxcredit</u>
- 3. https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p5538.pdf
- 4. https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p5538sp.pdf
- 5. https://www.freefilefillableforms.com/#/fd/ctc.faqs



Child Care Services Association leads efforts to strengthen accessible and affordable quality early care and education by providing supports for families, communities and the workforce.

Learn more at <u>www.childcareservices.org</u>.