



- Stimulus checks
 - <https://www.businessinsider.com/personal-finance/turbotax-online-portal-stimulus-check-direct-deposit-2020-4>
 - TurboTax has developed an online portal to register but the IRS clarified on 4-7-20 that it is not the same as the portal they are developing.
 - It generates a \$1 return and efiles
 - This is still useful to our clients who don't need to file
- IRS operations
 - Everything is closed
 - <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-operations-during-covid-19-mission-critical-functions-continue>
 - IRS has closed all Taxpayer Assistance centers and walk-in locations. The IRS continues to process returns and refunds on a reduced basis from the campuses that are open
 - Live phone assistance has been discontinued
 - PPS/ CAF units are closed (means the LITC cannot talk to the IRS to resolve ongoing issues and cannot submit new PoAs)
 - Tax Court has cancelled all dockets through June 2020 and the Clerk is not processing new petitions
 - Tax day is moved, and so are lots of other things, per the People First Initiative
 - Deadline to file and pay taxes is now July 15th [IR-2020-58](#), Tax Day now July 15
 - Installment agreements
 - New ones can continue to be submitted through IRS.gov; no guidance on how long they will take to process
 - Existing ones - payments due between April 1-July 15th are suspended, no interest
 - Offers in Compromise
 - Pending - Taxpayers have until July 15th to submit additional info
 - Payments - payments can be suspended until July 15th but interest still accrues
 - Delinquent returns - won't kill an OIC but past due returns need to be submitted by July 15th
 - New OICS - send them in, no guidance on when it will be processed
 - Collections
 - Automated levies are suspended until July 15th

- No new field collection levies or liens until July 15th
 - No referrals of debt to private collection agencies
 - No new audits of any kind (field, correspondence, in person)
 - No referrals to private debt collectors
- EIC prove-up
 - Regardless of original deadline, people who are facing an EIC audit will have until July 15th to submit requested documentation
- Offset Bypass Program
 - Generally you cannot prevent the IRS from taking a refund if you owe previous year's debts
 - Can request that the refund be issued if the taxpayer is having a hardship-inability to pay basic living expenses and will need documentation
 - This can be waived under certain circumstances
 - Any unit at IRS can initiate but only TAS can set up a direct deposit
 - Bank must belong to the taxpayer asking for the refund
- Statute of Limitations
 - Still running both ways
 - Guidance will be issued regarding NoDs since Tax Court is closed
- Legislation- Families First Act
 - Small and midsize employer tax relief
 - Small businesses are now required to give paid sick/family leave to employees
 - IRS is paying for it by offering refundable payroll taxes to them
 - Guidance has been issued
 - Employer can use its share of FICA taxes to pay for the leave instead of paying it over to the government
 - Penalty relief will be available since this is usually very against the rules use the trust fund taxes to pay for the leave
 - New Form 7200
 - Advance to certain employers if they have no withhold income tax or FICA taxes
 - They can get an advance and reconcile with their quarterly return.
 - Form can be faxed in; the number is on the instructions
- Legislation - CARES Act
 - Economic recovery focused

- SBA loans option- available for up to \$10 million for small/med businesses (defined as up to 500 employees)
 - Loan forgiveness for some aspect employees)
 - Eight weeks of 2.2x payroll, rent, utility, mortgage and as long as you keep them your employees employed, loans are fully forgivable
 - Check employer retention FAQs
 - Allows up to \$100k per employee as salary- includes all fringe amounts
 - For companies that have laid people off, they can hire them back and get your headcount up and still qualify
 - You have to spend the loan proceeds on the proper items or it won't be forgivable
 - Employee Retention Credit
 - Refundable credit for 50% of wage from March 13th to the end of 2020
 - Small employers can be open to qualify, large has to be closed
 - Based on business receipts from last year
 - Interfaces with Families First
 - If you get the credit for sick leave, you can't also get the retention credit
 - Up to \$10k of wages per employee
 - Applies to employers who have had to close because of a government shut-down order or significant decline of gross receipts from previous quarter
 - Government shutdown orders vary by locale- unsure what a shutdown order really means
 - Loan forgiveness is not taxable income
- Payroll tax option
 - Payroll tax deferred until the end of 2021 regardless of the size of employer (called payroll protection program/PPP)
 - Sec 2302, deferral of payroll taxes is employer FICA only, not the part withheld from employee
- Large businesses are also eligible for different loans that are not forgivable and have their own rules on employee retention, paying dividends, stock buy backs, etc.
 - Changes to NoLs
 - Suspends the 80% limit to taking NoLs

- Can carryback losses and get immediate refunds
- Economic impact payments
 - Refundable credit paid in cash. This is an advance credit from your 2020 taxes and will require that you reconcile next year
 - If you get too little, you will get the rest after filing your 2020 return
 - If you get too much, you have an overpayment but it will likely be forgivable
 - Amounts
 - Single adult - \$1200 but starts to phase out at \$75k AGI
 - Married filing joint- \$2400 but starts to phase out at \$150k AGI
 - Dependent children- \$500 each
 - Requires a SSN valid for employment
 - Can't be a dependent of someone else Will first look at 2019 return
 - Information used will be from 2019 tax year
 - If 2019 not filed, then 2018 will be used
 - Direct deposit info on tax returns will be utilized
 - mid-April for the first checks
 - If they do not have direct deposit info on the last tax return, but they want it direct deposited, they can provide that info to the IRS via special portal
 - IRS will use SSA info without requiring seniors to provide additional info
 - Most people will not need to do anything
 - And if they do, IRS states it will be done in the least burdensome way
 - Q- is there a way to provide info re: a change in circumstances/filing status/DV that would qualify a person for the credit?
 - If there needs to be a prove-up, it will be in 2020 and if they got less they will get more money then
 - Web app is not set up for that
- Unemployment benefits
 - Additional 39 weeks of UI provided
 - Retirement early withdrawal penalties waived for amounts up to \$10k
 - Can also be repaid without penalty as well
- Student loan relief
 - Interest is suspended and certain employer sponsored programs will be excluded from income
- Charitable deductions - limit removed so you can donate up to your AGI in 2020