



Child Tax Credit

File your taxes to receive the Child Tax Credit!

What is the Expanded Child Tax Credit?

To help families meet their children's basic needs, Congress expanded the Child Tax Credit (CTC) for 2021. Families will receive a total of \$3,600 per child up to age 5 and \$3,000 per child 6 to 17. The IRS paid out up to half of this credit in monthly payments between July and December 2021.

If your child is eligible for the CTC and you received monthly payments in 2021, you will receive the second half of your credit when you file your 2021 taxes in early 2022. If your child is eligible for the CTC and you didn't receive any advance monthly payments in 2021, you will receive the FULL CTC amount when you file your taxes.



IMPORTANT: Receiving the Child Tax Credit will not affect your Medicaid, SNAP/Food Stamps, TANF Cash Assistance, SSI, any other public benefits, or your immigration status.

Is My Child Eligible for the CTC?

To be eligible, children must:

- Have a Social Security Number.
- Have lived with you for at least half of 2021.
- Have been under age 18 as of December 31, 2021.

Children are eligible if they are your children, adopted children, stepchildren, foster children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews, or certain other relatives, and have lived with you for more than half of 2021.

You do not need to have any earnings to get this credit. Families qualify for the full credit if their income is below \$75,000 for single filers, \$112,000 for people filing as head of household, or \$150,000 for people who are married and filing jointly.

How Do I Get the Rest of My CTC?

Even if you have recently filed taxes, used the non-filer portal to sign up last year, or received advance monthly payments in 2021, **you must file your taxes to receive the rest of your Child Tax Credit.** The CTC non-filer portal is currently not available, so all parents should file a 2021 tax return. This includes parents who opted out of receiving the monthly payments last year using the IRS website, parents of new babies who were born in 2021, or parents of any other children for whom they didn't get advance payments in 2021.



Parents or caregivers can receive the rest of the 2021 CTC to which they are entitled by filing IRS Tax [Form 1040](#) or [1040-SR](#).

IMPORTANT: The IRS has begun distributing letter 6419 to taxpayers who received advance monthly CTC payments that includes the total amount the taxpayer received. Keep this letter, as you will need this information when you file your taxes. If you do not have or did not receive this letter, you can access the information you need through the [CTC Update portal](#).

File Now to Get Your CTC:

- Even if you do not have earnings
- Even if you did not file taxes in 2020 or 2021
- Even if you do not usually file

There are several free ways to file taxes online or to receive in-person support from community partners when filing a return. Some options for tax assistance include:

- Comprehensive new government [ChildTaxCredit.gov](#) website
- [IRS Free File](#) (available to people whose income was \$72,000 or less in 2021)
- [IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance \(VITA\)](#) (generally available to people who make \$57,000 or less, those who have disabilities, and those who speak limited English)
- [MyFreeTaxes](#) or call 211 to be connected with local IRS-certified free tax filing assistance or virtual help
- [GetYourRefund](#) to learn about your eligibility and how to get the credit when filing or get connected with an IRS-certified volunteer for support
- For support with tax issues, find your local [Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic](#) for free legal help on tax issues with the IRS, or make an appointment with your local [Taxpayer Assistance Center](#).

