



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

CHAIRMAN RICHARD E. NEAL

New IRS Portal to Track Economic Impact Payments

As of April 8, 2020

After extensive conversations with the IRS and the Department of the Treasury, the staff of the Ways & Means Committee has learned that the IRS plans to create a new, online portal—*Where's My Economic Impact Payment*—for people to obtain information about their economic impact payment and provide their banking information.

Background

Treasury and the IRS initially estimated that there would be 171 million rebate payments under the CARES Act and 101 million of these payments would be paid by paper check unless the IRS receives direct deposit information for these payments before a paper check is mailed.

Individuals have three options for providing their direct deposit information to the IRS before a paper check is mailed. An individual could:

- file his or her 2019 tax return and include the requested banking information on the return (for individuals required to file a federal tax return in 2019 that have not done so);
- file a simple tax form with a few questions, including the requested banking information (for individuals not required to file a federal tax return); or
- provide his or her banking information in a new online portal (for individuals who already filed a tax return in 2018 or 2019 without this information).

Treasury has moved up its timeline for starting to mail paper checks from the beginning of May to the end of April. These checks will be issued at a rate of about 5 million per week, which could take up to 20 weeks to get all the checks out. At the same time, Treasury will continue to make direct deposits weekly for individuals providing banking information.

Portal

The IRS plans to open a new, online portal the week of April 13 for economic impact payments.

The portal will allow taxpayers, once authenticated, to find out the status of their economic impact payments and, if no payment or check has been issued, they can provide their banking information for direct deposit. The portal will be similar to the [Where's My Refund](#) portal that is available for taxpayers to track the status of their federal tax refund. No other updates may be provided through the portal.