

Recovery Rebate Checks

The CARES Act provides for payments made to most (if not all) of the individuals we serve. Based on research completed by us, it appears that any individual that receives SSA or VA benefits will automatically receive a check for \$1,200, as long as they are not claimed as a dependent of another. There does not appear to be a tax filing requirement for them to receive a payment from the IRS. Persons that receive only Supplemental Social Security Income (SSI) may have to file a tax return to receive this payment. SSI payments are not reported on SSA-1099. It is unclear if these individuals would need to file or have filed a 2018 or 2019 tax return to receive payment. We will keep you posted as this becomes clearer. We will continue to research this and provide guidance to you.

Some websites indicate that these payments will be made using the “usual way you receive your current Social Security payment.” Some individuals we serve will receive a paper check issued to the address of record. We are not positive where the address will be obtained from, but assume it will be provided by the Social Security Administration or the VA. We ask that providers take caution when managing the entitlements and benefits of those in their care. Any government issued paper checks are prime targets for fraud and misappropriation. We ask that all providers create a listing of all of the individuals that they manage funds for and track receipt and deposit of the rebate checks for each of them.

The checks/direct payments are anticipated to begin being sent around April 6th. It is also imperative that providers be able to identify funds received that need to be forwarded or need to be handled as an asset of an estate. For those persons served that are no longer in your care, due to disenrollment or death, we ask that you remain mindful of these situations and do all you can to protect the interest of the individuals.

The rebate checks are not treated as reportable taxable income, they are not to be included as an income or asset resource within 12 months of the date received. Providers are not to count these funds in their room and board calculations as income.

If you should have other questions regarding these rebates payments, then please email us at financial.techsupport@ddsn.sc.gov.