

Stimulus Bill (H.R. 748 CARES ACT)

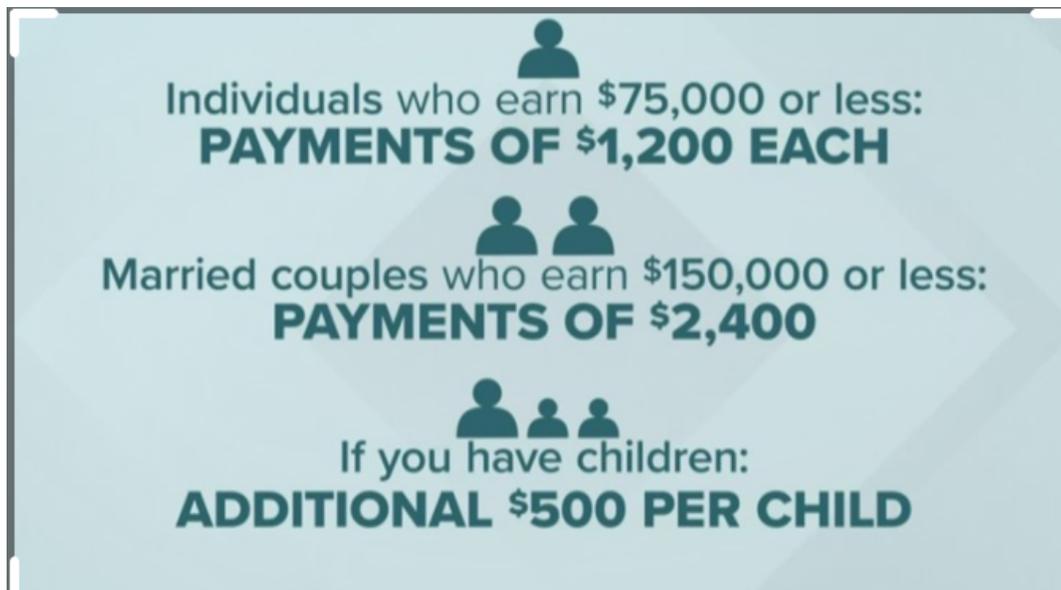
Items in the Stimulus Bill that may be relevant to our JP Proclaim congregation:

IRS Stimulus Rebate Checks - Everything you need to know will be posted on this website. <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus>

1.

In most cases, you do not need to do anything to get your check. The IRS working together with the Treasury Department has this all under control. They will use information from your tax returns to either mail a check to you, or if your tax returns provide electronic payment information, you will receive a deposit from the Treasury in your bank account.

If you want to provide the IRS your direct deposit information, you will be able to do so, as soon as the Treasury releases information on a web-based portal that it is setting up for this purpose. With direct deposit information, you will receive your deposit "immediately" instead of through the mail.



2. **Pandemic Unemployment Assistance & Compensation plus Emergency increase unemployment compensation**

The CARES Act expands existing unemployment benefits in two material ways: (1) providing for an extra \$600 weekly payment, in addition to the weekly benefit amount an eligible employee otherwise receives under state law; and (2) increases the maximum number of weeks an individual may receive benefits. These new benefits are funded at the federal level, but will be administered by the states.

<http://www.floridajobs.org/Reemployment-Assistance-Service-Center/reemployment-assistance/claimants/apply-for-benefits>

CARES ACT UNEMPLOYMENT EXPANSION

- ➔ ADDS **\$600** WEEKLY FEDERAL BENEFITS ON TOP OF **\$275** A WEEK PROVIDED BY FLORIDA.
- ➔ EXPANDS UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TO **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS.**
- ➔ MAKES ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS UP TO **4 MONTHS** - FLORIDA IS UP TO 12 WEEKS.

3. **The CARES Act provides automatic suspension of payments, with 0% interest, and counts towards loan forgiveness.** Suspends borrowers' obligation to make payments on their federal Direct Loans through September 2020; suspends interest on the payments; counts the suspended payments towards payment requirements for forgiveness provisions; suspends garnishment of wages, Social Security and tax refunds, among other measures, for borrowers in default during this period. <https://myfedloan.org/> When borrowers go to MyFedLoan's website they see a message explaining they have limited access to call centers due to the virus. The message also tells borrowers they are working to implement the CARES Act.

3. **Exclusion for certain employer payment of student loans** - All involuntary collections of student loan debt are suspended, including wage garnishments, Social Security garnishments and tax refund offsets. Any payment that was taken out of your paycheck by your employer or taken out of your IRS refund and given to the Department of Education (DOE). Call the Department of Education's Default Resolution Group at 800-621-3115. Request an **application** to have your **tax refund offset** reversed for financial **hardship**. Review the **hardship requirements**. You may need to be in a voluntary repayment plan like the **loan** rehabilitation program to get your **refund** back .

STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS DURING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

On March 27, 2020, the president signed the CARES Act into law which suspends federal student loan payments from March 13, 2020 through Sept. 30, 2020.

Federal Student Aid
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

-  You will **automatically** be placed in an administrative forbearance, which allows you to temporarily stop making your federal student loan payments.
-  If you're currently on an income-driven repayment (IDR) plan, your suspended payments will count towards IDR forgiveness.
-  If you're trying to rehabilitate defaulted loans, your suspended payments will count towards your rehabilitation.
-  The administrative forbearance is currently set to expire on Sept. 30, 2020. Your servicer will contact you (no later than in August) to remind you that you will need to start making payments again.

➤ Find more updates and resources at StudentAid.gov/coronavirus



3. **Small Businesses Loans**

There are currently two types of loans available: Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) and Paycheck Protection Loans (PPP). You can apply for both loans, but you can't use funds from each loan for the same expenses such as payroll, rent, insurance, etc. you apply for the EIDL loan on the SBA website. Apply at [sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance](https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance).

Forgivable Loans are called Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) Loan/Grants up to \$10,000 for Small Businesses

This advance will provide economic relief to businesses that are currently experiencing a temporary loss of revenue. Funds will be made available following a successful application. This loan advance will not have to be repaid. To Apply go to:

<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/economic-injury-disaster-loan-emergency-advance>

SBA Paycheck Protection Program

The Paycheck Protection Program is a loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll.

SBA will forgive loans if all employees are kept on the payroll for eight weeks and the money is used for payroll, rent, mortgage interest, or utilities.

To Apply go to :

<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program-ppp>

6. **Homeowners**



Homeowners are provided with a foreclosure moratorium of at least 60 days starting on March 18, 2020. They are also provided with the right to request and receive forbearance on their mortgage payments for up to 6 months, with the option to extend for an additional 6 months (total max of 1 year), as well as the option to discontinue the forbearance at any time. During the forbearance period, servicers are prohibited from charging fees or interest beyond what the borrower would have had to pay if they were making their payments as scheduled.

Homeowners should be advised that a mortgage forbearance is not a forgiveness of debt, and that they will have to work out a loan modification or repayment plan with their servicer at the end of the forbearance period to resume making payments, including all missed payments. The CARES Act is silent as to the kinds of loan modifications that will be offered after the term of forbearance, but a common type of loan modification following a forbearance period extends the mortgage term for the length of the forbearance to allow the homeowner to resume making payments in an amount that is very similar to what they were paying prior to the forbearance. Homeowners are encouraged to ask their servicers about these details and seek out housing counseling assistance as appropriate. Call your Bank or Mortgage Servicer or go to their website.

7. Renters



Temporary Moratorium on Eviction of Renters or renters living in “covered dwellings”, this bill provides a temporary moratorium on evictions as well as late fees for nonpayment of rent or other charges for a period of 120 days starting on March 27, 2020. Further, landlords would not be allowed to issue a notice to vacate until after this temporary moratorium and they would not be allowed to require a tenant to actually vacate the unit until 30 days after the notice is given. Renters should be advised that the moratorium only applies to evictions for nonpayment of rent, not for other causes. Renters should also be advised that although they may be protected from eviction proceedings temporarily under this bill, the bill does not treat nonpayment of rent during this period as forgiven and these unpaid amounts will accrue during this period even if fees are not assessed.

Renters should not have to do anything to benefit from this prohibition on evictions and late fees. Renters who believe their landlord is out of compliance with these provisions should contact their local legal aid or the relevant federal agency.

8. Car Loans



Unlike with student loans or mortgages, the federal government does not guarantee auto loans. That means the U.S. can't force auto lenders to suspend payments or call off car repossessions. Nearly all of the major lenders have said that they will suspend loan payments for borrowers who call to say they have been affected by the coronavirus.

The good news is that the CARES Act does provide some protection for your credit score. If an auto lender does agree to suspend payments or provide other loan relief, the law prohibits lenders from filing a negative report about the borrower to a credit-rating agency. That only applies to borrowers who were current on their loans as of January 31.

9. **Credit Cards**



The CARES Act essentially offers no relief for credit card borrowers. Many credit card issuers are voluntarily providing relief, but it is only for borrowers who call and ask. Apple Card, American Express and Capital One will allow you to skip a payment without accruing interest, according to www.CreditCards.com.

10. **Utilities**



Some localities have announced that they will temporarily reinstate or not shut off utilities, most oftentimes water due to non-payment.



11. United Way 2-1-1 Financial Assistance Programs

United Way 2-1-1 Financial Assistance programs can help with Electric Bill assistance, Phone bill Assistance, Water bill Assistance , Rent Assistance, Prescription Assistance, Child care expense assistance, etc.

<https://www.211unitedway.org/search-category/financial-assistance-programs/>