



Shaping Policy...  
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## **113,147 MISSOURIANS HAVE NOT CLAIMED FEDERAL STIMULUS PAYMENTS**

***Deadline to file is October 15, Local Assistance is Available at Locations Across the State***

St. Louis, MO – 113,147 low-income seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities in Missouri have yet to claim their economic stimulus payments from the federal government, the Missouri Budget Project announced today. Missourians have until October 15 to file a tax return in order to receive a stimulus payment. These unclaimed payments in Missouri alone add up to \$33,944,100, which, when claimed by Missourians, could help boost the state's economy.

The stimulus payments – worth a minimum of \$300 per person – have not been claimed by many of the people who most need them to cover basic expenses like food and shelter. These are also the people who are most likely to spend the payments quickly, helping the economy as Congress intended when it approved the payments earlier this year.

“Especially with the weak economy, many Missourians are having a tough time making ends meet,” said Amy Blouin, Executive Director of the Missouri Budget Project. “These stimulus payments can give them, and our economy, much-needed help.”

Many people have not claimed their payment because their incomes were too low for them to have to file a tax return this year. To receive the payment, residents must file a 2007 tax return, **though people with no other filing requirements only need to fill out part of the return.**

“Many of the Missourians who have not yet claimed their payments are seniors or disabled individuals who are not required to file for any reason other than to get their stimulus payment, so they may not realize they qualify,” Blouin said. “And, because they may not have filed a tax return in decades, they may find the process intimidating. **However, they only have until October 15 to claim the payment, and assistance is available in all areas of the state.**”

“Seniors who are home-bound may need special assistance,” Blouin said. “Family members and friends should check in with the seniors they know to make sure they’re aware they can qualify for the payment and get the help they need.”

**For assistance, individuals who have not yet claimed their stimulus payments can use an online tool developed by AARP and the National Council on Aging, available at:**

(<https://aarp-stimulus2008.benefitscheckup.org/espp/welcome.do> or <https://stimulus2008.benefitscheckup.org/espp/welcome.do>).

This tool provides a simple way to fill out the required form and information about where to send it.

**Missourians can also find assistance through service providers in their communities, including:**

**In Southwest Missouri:**

**Southwest Center for Independent Living**  
2864 S Nettleton  
Springfield, MO 65807  
417-886-1188 or 800-676-7245

**The Independent Living Center**  
(Call for appointment)  
1001 East 32<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Joplin, MO 64804  
417-659-8086 or 800-346-8951

**Southwest Office on Aging**  
1735 South Fort Ave.  
Springfield, MO 65807  
417-862-0762 or 800-497-0822

**The VantAge Point**  
2701 S. Bird  
Joplin, MO 64804  
417-781-7562

**In Southeast Missouri:**

**Southeast Missouri Area Agency on Aging**  
1219 N. Kingshighway St., Suite 100  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
573-335-3331 or 800-392-8771

**Bootheel Area Independent Living Center**  
719 Teaco Road  
Kennett, MO 63857  
573-888-0002 or 800-449-0949

**Independent Living Center of SE Missouri**  
511 Cedar Street  
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901  
573-686-2333 or 888-890-2333

**In St. Louis/St. Charles Region:**

**Mid-East Area Agency on Aging**  
14535 Manchester Rd.  
St. Louis, MO 63011  
636.207.0847 or 800.243.6060

**St. Louis Area Agency on Aging**  
634 N Grand Blvd  
St. Louis, MO 63103  
314.612.5918

**In Kansas City Region:**

**Mid-America Regional Council**  
Department of Aging Services  
600 Broadway, Suite 300  
Kansas City, MO 64105  
816-474-4240 or 800-593-7948

**In Mid-Missouri:**

**Disabled Citizen Alliance for Independence**  
8 Missouri Avenue  
Viburnum, MO 65566  
573-244-5402

**Central Missouri Area Agency on Aging**  
1121 Business Loop 70 East  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-443-5823 or 800-369-5211

**Care Connection**  
106 West Young  
Warrensburg, MO 64093  
800.886.4699

In Northeast Missouri:

Northeast Independent Living Services  
909 Broadway, Suite 350  
Hannibal, MO 63401  
573-221-8282 or 877-713-7900

NE Missouri Area Agency on Aging  
815 N Osteopathy  
Kirksville, MO 63501  
660-665-4682 or 800-664-6338

In Northwest Missouri:

Northwest Missouri Area Agency on Aging  
211 South Polk  
Albany, MO 64402  
660-726-3800 or 888-844-5626

One Missourian who received assistance in filing for her payment is Cathy Slatinsky, 50, of Springfield. "I didn't even know it (the rebate check) was available for disabled people until the SCIL (Southwest Center for Independent Living) informed me about it and how to get it," Slatinsky said. "I immediately filled out the form and sent it in. I received it (the rebate check) within two weeks and was so excited to get it! I was behind on my city utilities bill before I got it, but it (the rebate check) got me up to date."

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*The Mission of the Missouri Budget Project is: To advance public policies that improve economic opportunities for all Missourians – particularly low and middle-income families – by providing reliable and objective research, public education and advocacy. More information is available at [www.mobudget.org](http://www.mobudget.org).*