



Get Banked Indian Country: Claiming the Child Tax Credit (CTC)

Through the **American Rescue Plan**, you may qualify to receive a Child Tax Credit (CTC). There is no minimum income requirement or need to have tax documents to receive the payments. Qualifying persons **receive the money in two parts: half as an advance payment in 2021, and half after a tax year 2021 return is filed.** **The law increases the maximum CTC to \$3,600 for each child under the age of 6, and \$3,000 per child for children between the ages 6 and 17.**

You must have a qualifying child; for the purposes of the CTC, a *qualifying* child is one that:

- Does not turn 18 until January 1, 2022 or later
- Has a valid SSN
- Did not provide more than one-half of his or her own support during 2021
- Lives with the taxpayer in a qualifying home for more than one-half of tax year 2021
- Is properly claimed as the taxpayer's dependent child

A qualifying home is any location where the person and qualified child regularly live, and is defined as: a house, apartment, mobile home, shelter, temporary lodging, or other such location.

Qualified persons that **did not** file a tax return for 2020 may receive the advance CTC, and any stimulus payments they are owed, by using the **GetCTC.org non-filer tool**.

The GetCTC.org non-filer tool is an option for you if you:

- Have a valid SSN for yourself
- Earned less than \$12,400 if single, \$24,800 if married filing jointly
- Did not file a tax return in 2021
- Did not receive any of, or the full amount of, the stimulus payments you are owed

*****GetCTC.org's online filing portal will be open until November 15, 2021*****

If you use the GetCTC.org tool, you may select to receive the CTC by paper check or direct deposit. What do you do if you want to receive the CTC by direct deposit?

- If you do not have a bank account, you may go to **this site** for a list of financial institutions that offer ways to open a safe and affordable Bank On account with an option to receive funds via direct deposit (see this **ONAC Get Banked Indian Country** flyer for information on Bank On account benefits).
- Alternatively, if you are unable to access a Bank On account, you may want to go to a bank or credit union near you to open a comparable lower-cost transactional account of your choice for depositing CTC monies.
- Other options (if you do not currently have a bank account) would be to purchase a prepaid reloadable debit card, or open a CashApp, Venmo, or PayPal account (these are financial platforms, not banks or credit unions, so check for fees).

Through the GetCTC.org non-filer tool process, you can claim CTC and stimulus payments you might be due. These two important sources of funds are available to qualified Native families and may be safely held in a savings or checking account. **Let's Get Banked Indian Country!**