HIGHLIGHTS
OF THIS ISSUE

These synopses are intended only as aids to the reader in identifying the subject matter covered. They may not be relied upon as authoritative interpretations.

ADMINISTRATIVE

This revenue procedure provides two procedures for individuals not otherwise required to file 2020 Federal income tax returns to file returns to receive advance child tax credit payments, 2020 recovery rebate credit payments, additional 2020 recovery rebate credit payments, and third-round economic impact payments. The first procedure permits these individuals to file simplified returns. The second procedure enables these individuals to file complete returns electronically even if they have zero adjusted gross income.

EMPLOYMENT TAX, INCOME TAX

This notice extends the federal income and employment tax treatment provided in Notice 2020-46, 2020-27 I.R.B. 7, to cash payments made to charitable organizations described in section 170(c) of the Code (section 170(c) organizations) after December 31, 2020, and before January 1, 2022, that otherwise would be described in Notice 2020-46. Under leave-based donation programs, employees can elect to forgo vacation, sick, or personal leave in exchange for cash payments made by their employers to section 170(c) organizations.

INCOME TAX

Notice 2021-41, page 17.
Beginning of Construction for Sections 45 and 48; Extension of Continuity Safe Harbor to Address Delays Related to COVID-19 and Clarification of the Continuity Requirement. In response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, Notice 2021-41 extends the Continuity Safe Harbor for both the production tax credit for qualified facilities under section 45 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) and the investment tax credit for energy property under section 48 of the Code for property the construction of which began in 2016 through 2020. This notice also provides a clarification of the methods that taxpayers may use to satisfy the continuity requirement to satisfy the beginning of construction requirements under sections 45 and 48.
The IRS Mission

Provide America’s taxpayers top-quality service by helping them understand and meet their tax responsibilities and enforce the law with integrity and fairness to all.

Introduction

The Internal Revenue Bulletin is the authoritative instrument of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue for announcing official rulings and procedures of the Internal Revenue Service and for publishing Treasury Decisions, Executive Orders, Tax Conventions, legislation, court decisions, and other items of general interest. It is published weekly.

It is the policy of the Service to publish in the Bulletin all substantive rulings necessary to promote a uniform application of the tax laws, including all rulings that supersede, revoke, modify, or amend any of those previously published in the Bulletin. All published rulings apply retroactively unless otherwise indicated. Procedures relating solely to matters of internal management are not published; however, statements of internal practices and procedures that affect the rights and duties of taxpayers are published.

Revenue rulings represent the conclusions of the Service on the application of the law to the pivotal facts stated in the revenue ruling. In those based on positions taken in rulings to taxpayers or technical advice to Service field offices, identifying details and information of a confidential nature are deleted to prevent unwarranted invasions of privacy and to comply with statutory requirements.

Rulings and procedures reported in the Bulletin do not have the force and effect of Treasury Department Regulations, but they may be used as precedents. Unpublished rulings will not be relied on, used, or cited as precedents by Service personnel in the disposition of other cases. In applying published rulings and procedures, the effect of subsequent legislation, regulations, court decisions, rulings, and procedures must be considered, and Service personnel and others concerned are cautioned against reaching the same conclusions in other cases unless the facts and circumstances are substantially the same.

The Bulletin is divided into four parts as follows:

This part includes rulings and decisions based on provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Part II.—Treaties and Tax Legislation.
This part is divided into two subparts as follows: Subpart A, Tax Conventions and Other Related Items, and Subpart B, Legislation and Related Committee Reports.

Part III.—Administrative, Procedural, and Miscellaneous.
To the extent practicable, pertinent cross references to these subjects are contained in the other Parts and Subparts. Also included in this part are Bank Secrecy Act Administrative Rulings. Bank Secrecy Act Administrative Rulings are issued by the Department of the Treasury’s Office of the Assistant Secretary (Enforcement).

Part IV.—Items of General Interest.
This part includes notices of proposed rulemakings, disbarment and suspension lists, and announcements.

The last Bulletin for each month includes a cumulative index for the matters published during the preceding months. These monthly indexes are cumulated on a semiannual basis, and are published in the last Bulletin of each semiannual period.

The contents of this publication are not copyrighted and may be reprinted freely. A citation of the Internal Revenue Bulletin as the source would be appropriate.
Part III

Beginning of Construction for Sections 45 and 48; Extension of Continuity Safe Harbor to Address Delays Related to COVID-19 and Clarification of the Continuity Requirement

Notice 2021-41

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

This notice clarifies and modifies the prior Internal Revenue Service (IRS) notices1 addressing the beginning of construction requirement for both the production tax credit for qualified facilities under § 45 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) and the investment tax credit for energy property under § 48 of the Code. In response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, this notice provides that the safe harbor originally provided in section 3.02 of Notice 2013-60 and in section 6.05 of Notice 2018-59 and extended in prior IRS notices (Continuity Safe Harbor) is further extended for property the construction of which began in 2016 through 2020. This notice also provides a clarification of the methods that taxpayers may use to satisfy the Continuity Requirement (as provided in prior IRS notices and defined in section 2 of this notice) to satisfy the beginning of construction requirements under §§ 45 and 48.

SECTION 2. BACKGROUND

Section 38 of the Code allows certain business credits. Among the credits allowed by § 38 are the renewable electricity production tax credit under § 45 and the investment tax credit determined under § 46 of the Code (which includes the energy credit under § 48). The credits under §§ 45 and 48 generally are referred to as the production tax credit (PTC) and the investment tax credit for energy property (ITC), respectively.

To qualify for the PTC, electricity must, among other things, be produced by the taxpayer at a qualified facility as defined in § 45(d). The PTC for any taxable year is calculated by multiplying an inflation-adjusted credit rate by kilowatt hours of electricity produced and sold by the taxpayer to an unrelated person. The ITC is calculated as a percentage of the basis of energy property (as defined in § 48(a)(3)) placed in service during the taxable year. Additionally, under § 48(a)(5), a taxpayer may elect to treat certain renewable energy facilities that otherwise qualify under § 45(d) as energy property to claim the ITC in lieu of the PTC with respect to the facility. Both the PTC and the ITC have a beginning of construction requirement.

On December 27, 2020, the Taxpayer Certainty and Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2020 (TCDTRA), enacted as Division EE of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. 116-260, Title I, 134 Stat. 1182, 3052-53, 3057-58, amended §§ 45 and 48 with regard to the PTC and the ITC. Section 131(a) of the TCDTRA extended the deadline to begin construction for certain qualified facilities for one year to December 31, 2021. Section 131(b) of the TCDTRA extended the beginning of construction deadline applicable to the election to claim the ITC in lieu of the PTC by one year with respect to certain qualified facilities to December 31, 2021. Section 132(a) of the TCDTRA extended the deadlines for the beginning of construction requirements for certain ITC-eligible energy property to December 31, 2023. In addition, sections 131(c) and 132(b) of the TCDTRA extended the beginning of construction deadlines for the phaseout provisions applicable to the PTC and the ITC. Finally, section 204 of the TCDTRA amended § 48(a)(5) to provide special rules for “qualified offshore wind facilities.”

The Department of the Treasury (Treasury Department) and the IRS have published several notices regarding the beginning of construction requirement. Notice 2013-29 provides two methods to establish that the beginning of construction requirement under §§ 45 and 48(a)(5) has been satisfied with respect to a facility: the Physical Work Test and the Five Percent Safe Harbor. Both methods require a taxpayer to make continuous progress towards completion of the facility once construction has begun (Continuity Requirement).

Section 4 of Notice 2013-29 provides the Physical Work Test. Section 4.01 of Notice 2013-29 provides:

Construction of a qualified facility begins when physical work of a significant nature begins ... Whether a taxpayer has begun construction of a facility before [the statutory deadline] will depend on the relevant facts and circumstances. The Internal Revenue Service will closely scrutinize a facility, and may determine that construction has not begun on a facility before [the statutory deadline] if a taxpayer does not maintain a continuous program of construction as determined under section 4.06.

Section 4.06(1) of Notice 2013-29 provides that a continuous program of construction involves continuing physical work of a significant nature (Continuous Construction Test). Further, section 4.06(1) of Notice 2013-29 provides that whether the taxpayer has maintained a continuous program of construction will be determined by the relevant facts and circumstances.

Section 5.01 of Notice 2013-29 provides the Five Percent Safe Harbor:

Construction of a facility will be considered as having begun before [the statutory deadline] if (1) a taxpayer pays or incurs (within the meaning of Treas. Reg. § 1.461-1(a)(1) and (2)) five percent or more of the total cost of the facility, except as provided in

---

section 5.01(2), before [the statutory deadline] and (2) thereafter, the taxpayer makes continuous efforts to advance towards completion of the facility as determined under section 5.02).

Section 5.02(1) of Notice 2013-29 provides that whether a taxpayer makes continuous efforts to advance towards completion of the facility will be determined by the relevant facts and circumstances (Continuous Efforts Test). This section also provides that facts and circumstances indicating continuous efforts to advance towards completion of the facility may include, but are not limited to:

(a) paying or incurring additional amounts included in the total cost of the facility;
(b) entering into binding written contracts for components or future work on construction of the facility;
(c) obtaining necessary permits; and
(d) performing physical work of a significant nature.

Notice 2013-60 clarifies certain concepts provided in Notice 2013-29. Notice 2013-60 provides a Continuity Safe Harbor that allows a facility to be deemed to have satisfied the Continuity Requirement. Section 3.02 of Notice 2013-60 provides that if a facility is placed in service before January 1, 2016, the facility will be considered to satisfy the Continuous Construction Test (for purposes of satisfying the Physical Work Test) or the Continuous Efforts Test (for purposes of satisfying the Five Percent Safe Harbor). Section 3.02 of Notice 2013-60 also provides that if a facility is not placed in service before January 1, 2016, whether the facility satisfies the Continuous Construction or Continuous Efforts Tests will be determined by the relevant facts and circumstances, as described in section 4.06 and section 5.02 of Notice 2013-29.

The Treasury Department and the IRS have published several notices further extending and modifying the Continuity Safe Harbor. Notice 2015-25 extended the Continuity Safe Harbor for one year by replacing “January 1, 2016” provided in Notice 2013-60 with “January 1, 2017.” Notice 2016-31 modified the Continuity Safe Harbor originally provided in section 3.02 of Notice 2013-60 and extended by Notice 2015-25. Section 3 of Notice 2016-31 provides that if a taxpayer places a facility in service by the later of (1) a calendar year that is no more than four calendar years after the calendar year during which construction of the facility began or (2) December 31, 2016, the facility will be considered to satisfy the Continuity Safe Harbor. Notice 2017-04 further extended and modified the Continuity Safe Harbor by providing that if a taxpayer places a facility in service by the later of (1) a calendar year that is no more than four calendar years after the calendar year during which construction of the facility began or (2) December 31, 2018, the facility will be considered to satisfy the Continuity Safe Harbor.

Notice 2018-59 provides guidance on determining when construction has begun on energy property eligible for the § 48 credit. It provides two methods to establish the beginning of construction (Physical Work Test and Five Percent Safe Harbor), a Continuity Requirement for both methods, rules for transferring energy property, and additional rules applicable to the beginning of construction requirement of § 48 with respect to “energy property” described in sections 2.02 and 2.03 of Notice 2018-59. Section 6.05 of Notice 2018-59 provides a Continuity Safe Harbor for energy property under § 48 that mirrors that provided for the PTC under § 45 in the prior IRS notices:

Except as provided in this section, if a taxpayer places an energy property in service by the end of a calendar year that is no more than four calendar years after the calendar year during which construction of the energy property began the Continuity Safe Harbor Deadline, the energy property will be considered to satisfy the Continuity Safe Harbor. The excusable disruption rules in section 6.03 do not apply for purposes of applying the Continuity Safe Harbor. However, if an energy property is not placed in service before the end of the fourth calendar year after the calendar year during which construction of the energy property began, whether the energy property satisfies the Continuity Requirement under either the Physical Work Test or the Five Percent Safe Harbor will be determined by the relevant facts and circumstances. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, on May 27, 2020, the Treasury Department and the IRS released Notice 2020-41, which provides that for projects that began construction in either calendar year 2016 or 2017, the Continuity Safe Harbor is satisfied if a taxpayer places the qualified facility or energy property in service by the end of a calendar year that is no more than five calendar years after the calendar year during which construction with respect to that qualified facility or energy property began. Notice 2020-41 also provides a 3½ Month Safe Harbor for services or property paid for by the taxpayer on or after September 16, 2019 and received by October 15, 2020.

The Treasury Department and the IRS recognize that regional, national, or global circumstances due to the COVID-19 pandemic have continued to cause delays in the development of certain facilities eligible for the PTC and the ITC. These extraordinary delays have adversely affected the ability of many taxpayers to place facilities in service in time to meet the Continuity Safe Harbor. Accordingly, this notice provides relief for projects on which construction began in 2016 through 2020 by expanding the period that qualifies for the Continuity Safe Harbor. In addition, in response to requests from taxpayers, this notice harmonizes the methods for satisfying the Continuity Requirement under the Physical Work Test and Five Percent Safe Harbor. Except as otherwise specified in this notice, the guidance provided in the prior IRS notices continues to apply.

SECTION 3. EXTENSION OF THE CONTINUITY SAFE HARBOR FOR SECTIONS 45 AND 48

This notice provides that for any qualified facility or energy property that began construction under the Physical Work Test or the Five Percent Safe Harbor in calendar year 2016, 2017, 2018, or 2019, the Continuity Safe Harbor is satisfied if a taxpayer places the qualified facility or energy property in service by the end of a calendar year that is no more than six calendar years after the calendar year during which construction with respect to that qualified facility or energy property began. Additionally, for any qualified facility or energy property that began construction under the Physical Work Test or
the Five Percent Safe Harbor in calendar year 2020, the Continuity Safe Harbor is satisfied if a taxpayer places the qualified facility or energy property in service by the end of a calendar year that is no more than five calendar years after the calendar year during which construction with respect to that qualified facility or energy property began.

SECTION 4. CLARIFICATION OF METHODS TO SATISFY THE CONTINUITY REQUIREMENT

This notice further provides that for any qualified facility or energy property to which the Continuity Safe Harbor does not apply, the Continuity Requirement is satisfied if the taxpayer demonstrates satisfaction of either the Continuous Construction Test or the Continuous Efforts Test, regardless of whether the Physical Work Test or the Five Percent Safe Harbor was used to establish the beginning of construction.

SECTION 5. EFFECT ON OTHER DOCUMENTS


SECTION 6. NO RULE

The IRS will not issue private letter rulings or determination letters to a taxpayer regarding the application of this notice, the prior IRS notices, or the beginning of construction requirement under §§ 45 and 48.

SECTION 7. DRAFTING INFORMATION

The principal author of this notice is Jennifer Bernardini of the Office of Associate Chief Counsel (Passthroughs & Special Industries). For further information regarding this notice contact Jennifer Bernardini on (202) 317-6853 (not a toll-free number).

---

Treatment of Amounts Paid to Section 170(c) Organizations under Employer Leave-based Donation Programs to Aid Victims of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Notice 2021-42

Subsequent to the March 13, 2020, emergency declaration issued by the President of the United States under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) in response to the ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the President issued major disaster declarations under the authority of the Stafford Act for each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories (affected geographic areas).

Notice 2020-46, 2020-27 I.R.B. 7, provided guidance under the Internal Revenue Code (Code) on the federal income and employment tax treatment to employers and their employees of cash payments made before January 1, 2021, for the relief of victims of the COVID-19 pandemic in the affected geographic areas under employer sponsored leave-based donation programs. Under leave-based donation programs, employees can elect to forgo vacation, sick, or personal leave in exchange for cash payments made by their employers to charitable organizations described in section 170(c) of the Code (section 170(c) organizations).

Because of the ongoing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service have determined that it is appropriate to extend the treatment provided in Notice 2020-46 to cash payments made to section 170(c) organizations after December 31, 2020, and before January 1, 2022.

Accordingly, this notice extends the federal income and employment tax treatment provided in Notice 2020-46 to cash payments made to section 170(c) organizations after December 31, 2020, and before January 1, 2022, that otherwise would be described in Notice 2020-46.

EFFECT ON OTHER DOCUMENTS

Notice 2020-46 is modified.

DRAFTING INFORMATION

For further information, please contact Suzanne R. Sinno of the Office of Associate Chief Counsel (Income Tax and Accounting) at (202) 317-4718 (not a toll-free number).

26 CFR 1.6012-1: Individuals required to make returns of income.

Rev. Proc. 2021-24

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

.01 This revenue procedure provides procedures for individuals who are not otherwise required to file Federal income tax returns for taxable year 2020 to receive advance child tax credit payments under § 7527A of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) and third-round economic impact payments under § 6428B of the Code. These procedures also permit individuals to claim the 2020 recovery rebate credit under § 6428 of the Code and the additional 2020 recovery rebate credit under § 6428A of the Code. Section 2 of this revenue procedure describes these credits in further detail.

.02 Section 4 of this revenue procedure provides a simplified Federal income tax return filing procedure for individuals whose gross income is less than their applicable standard deduction amount and who are not required to file a Federal income tax return for taxable year 2020.

.03 Section 5 of this revenue procedure provides a procedure for individuals who are not required to file a Federal income tax return, whose gross income is less than their applicable standard deduction amount, and who have zero adjusted gross income (AGI) to file an electronic Federal income tax return for taxable year 2020. These individuals generally are not able to file Federal income tax returns ele-
tronically due to tax return preparation software and return processing parameters that do not accept $0 AGI entries. Because tax returns filed on paper do not pose this processing issue, the procedure provided by section 5 of this revenue procedure does not apply to a Federal income tax return filed on paper, although the procedure provided by section 4 of this revenue procedure does apply to paper-filed returns of individuals who are not required to file a Federal income tax return for taxable year 2020.

.04 The procedures provided by this revenue procedure do not apply to a resident of American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (Puerto Rico), or the U.S. Virgin Islands (each, a U.S. territory). A resident of a U.S. territory other than Puerto Rico should contact his or her local territory tax agency for additional information about the child tax credit and advance child tax credit payments. A resident of Puerto Rico may be eligible to claim the child tax credit from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), under procedures to be announced at a later date, but is not eligible to receive advance child tax credit payments. A resident of a U.S. territory should contact his or her local territory tax agency for additional information about third-round economic impact payments, the 2020 recovery rebate credit, and the additional 2020 recovery rebate credit.

.05 An individual who already filed a Federal income tax return for taxable year 2020 does not need to file any additional forms or otherwise contact the IRS to receive an advance child tax credit for the 2020 CTC qualifying child shown on that return or to receive a third-round economic impact payment for themselves and for each dependent shown on that return. Such individual can claim the 2020 recovery rebate credit and additional 2020 recovery rebate credit on a Federal income tax return for taxable year 2020 if the individual did not receive the full amount of these credits as first- and second-round economic impact payments.

SECTION 2. BACKGROUND

.01 Child Tax Credit and Credit for Other Dependents.

(1) Child tax credit. Under § 24(a), a taxpayer may claim a credit against the taxpayer’s Federal income tax liability (as imposed by chapter 1 of subtitle A of the Code) for the taxable year with respect to each of the taxpayer’s qualifying children for whom the taxpayer is allowed a deduction under § 151 of the Code. In the case of a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2026, no child tax credit is allowed for a qualifying child unless the social security number (SSN) of the child, which must be valid for employment, is provided on the return. See § 24(h)(7). If the taxpayer’s child was a U.S. citizen when the child received the SSN, the SSN is valid for employment.

(2) Credit for other dependents. For the taxable years described in section 2.01(1) of this revenue procedure, a $500 credit (credit for other dependents) may be available for a dependent of the taxpayer who is not a qualifying child or who is a qualifying child but does not have an SSN valid for employment. See § 24(h)(4). The credit for other dependents is not addressed by this revenue procedure because the credit is nonrefundable, and therefore is not applicable to individuals described in section 4.02 or 5.02 of this revenue procedure.

(3) Nonresident aliens. Only nonresident aliens who are U.S. nationals; residents of Canada, Mexico, or South Korea; or students and business apprentices from India who qualify for benefits under Article 21(2) of the income tax treaty with India may claim the child tax credit or credit for other dependents.

.02 American Rescue Plan Changes to the Child Tax Credit. Section 9611(a) and (b)(1) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (American Rescue Plan), Public Law 117-2, 135 Stat. 4, 144-148 (March 11, 2021), added §§ 24(i) and 7527A to the Code. The American Rescue Plan amended the provisions under § 24 that address the child tax credit for qualifying children but did not amend the provisions under § 24 that address the credit for other dependents.

(1) Special child tax credit rules under § 24. With regard to any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2020, and before January 1, 2022 (2021 taxable year), § 24(i) amends the child tax credit rules set forth in § 24 to provide the following:

(a) The definition of a qualifying child has been expanded to include a child who has not attained the age of 18 as of the end of the 2021 taxable year (2021 CTC qualifying child). See § 24(i)(2)(A).

(b) The child tax credit for 2021 CTC qualifying children is fully refundable for a taxpayer if the taxpayer (or the spouse of the taxpayer filing a joint return) has a principal place of abode in the United States (determined as provided in § 32 of the Code) for more than one-half of taxable year 2021 (U.S. principal place of abode status). Full refundability means that taxpayers can benefit from the maximum credit even if they do not have earned income or do not owe any Federal income tax. See § 24(i)(1).

(c) Taxpayers claiming the child tax credit for the 2021 taxable year will receive up to $3,000 for each 2021 CTC qualifying child who is between the ages of 6 and 17 as of the end of the 2021 taxable year, and $3,600 for each 2021 CTC qualifying child who is under the age of 6 as of the end of the 2021 taxable year. See § 24(i)(2) and (3).

(2) Advance payment of the child tax credit under § 7527A.

(a) Establishment of advance child tax credit payment program. Section 7527A(a) requires the Secretary of the Treasury or her delegate (Secretary) to establish a program for making periodic advance child tax credit payments to taxpayers the total of which, during any calendar year, equals the “annual advance amount” (as defined in § 7527A(b)(1)) determined with respect to that taxpayer for that cal-

July 19, 2021

Bulletin No. 2021–29
end year. These advance child tax credit payments must be made no earlier than July 1, 2021, and no later than December 31, 2021, and generally must be made in equal amounts. See §§ 7527A(a), (b)(3), and (f).

(b) Definition of annual advance amount. In general, § 7527A(b)(1) defines the term “annual advance amount” to mean, with respect to any taxpayer for any calendar year, the amount (if any) that the Secretary estimates as being equal to 50 percent of the refundable child tax credit amount that would be treated as allowed by reason of § 24(i)(1) for the taxpayer’s taxable year beginning in that calendar year if (i) the U.S. principal place of abode status is determined with respect to the “reference taxable year” (as defined in § 7527A(b)(2)); (ii) the taxpayer’s modified adjusted gross income for that taxable year is equal to the taxpayer’s modified adjusted gross income for the reference taxable year; (iii) the only children of the taxpayer for that taxable year are qualifying children properly claimed on the taxpayer’s return of tax for the reference taxable year; and (iv) the ages of those children (and the status of those children as 2020 CTC qualifying children) are determined for that taxable year by taking into account the passage of time since the reference taxable year.

(c) Reference taxable year. In general, the term “reference taxable year” means, with respect to any taxpayer for any calendar year, the taxpayer’s taxable year beginning in the preceding calendar year (that is, the taxpayer’s 2020 taxable year) or, in the case of taxpayer who did not file a Federal income tax return for that taxable year, the taxpayer’s taxable year beginning in the second preceding calendar year (that is, the taxpayer’s 2019 taxable year).

(d) Authority to issue guidance. Section 7527A(g) provides, in relevant part, that the Secretary shall issue such regulations or other guidance as the Secretary determines to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of § 7527A.

.03 2020 Recovery Rebate Credit and First-Round Economic Impact Payments.

(1) 2020 recovery rebate credit. Section 2201(a) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (or CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, 134 Stat. 281, 335-337 (March 27, 2020) added § 6428 to the Code. Section 6428(a) provides an eligible individual (as defined in § 6428(d)) a refundable tax credit against the eligible individual’s Federal income tax liability (as imposed by subtitle A of the Code) for the eligible individual’s first taxable year beginning in 2020 (2020 recovery rebate credit).

(a) Definition of eligible individual. Section 6428(d) defines the term “eligible individual” for purposes of § 6428 to mean any individual other than (i) a nonresident alien individual, (ii) an individual who can be claimed as a dependent for a deduction under § 151 for the taxable year, or (iii) an estate or trust. To receive a 2020 recovery rebate credit, § 6428(g) requires that an eligible individual have an SSN valid for employment or file a joint return with an eligible individual who has an SSN valid for employment.

(b) Amount of 2020 recovery rebate credit. Section 6428(a) provides that the amount of the 2020 recovery rebate credit equals the sum of (i) $1,200 per eligible individual ($2,400 in the case of two eligible individuals filing a joint return) and (ii) an amount equal to the product of $500 multiplied by the number of 2020 CTC qualifying children of the eligible individual. Section 6428(g)(1)(C) and (g)(3) does not take into account a 2020 CTC qualifying child who does not have an SSN valid for employment or an adoption taxpayer identification number issued by the IRS (ATIN). Section 6428(g) reduces the $2,400 amount for joint filers to $1,200 if one spouse does not have an SSN valid for employment and neither spouse was a member of the Armed Forces of the United States at any time during the taxable year. Section 6428(c) provides phaseouts of the credit amount based on an eligible individual’s AGI. Section 6428(e) further reduces the credit amount by the aggregate refunds allowed to the eligible individual as an advance refund in 2020 (first-round economic impact payments).

(2) First-round economic impact payments. Section 6428(f) addresses the payment of advanced refunds and credits during calendar year 2020. The IRS has disbursed the first-round economic impact payments. See § 6428(f)(3)(A).

.04 Additional 2020 Recovery Rebate Credit and Second-Round Economic Impact Payments.

(1) Additional 2020 recovery rebate credit. Section 272(a) of the COVID-related Tax Relief Act of 2020, enacted in Division N of Title II of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Public Law 116-260, 134 Stat. 1182, 1965-1971 (December 27, 2020), added § 6428A to the Code. Section 6428A(a) provides an eligible individual, in addition to the refundable tax credit allowed under § 6428(a), a refundable tax credit against the eligible individual’s Federal income tax liability (as imposed by subtitle A of the Code) for the eligible individual’s first taxable year beginning in 2020 (additional 2020 recovery rebate credit).

(a) Definition of eligible individual. Section 6428A(d) defines the term “eligible individual” for purposes of § 6428A to mean any individual other than (i) a nonresident alien individual, (ii) an individual who can be claimed as a dependent for a deduction under § 151 for the taxable year, or (iii) an estate or trust. To receive an additional 2020 recovery rebate credit, § 6428A(g) requires that an eligible individual have an SSN valid for employment or file a joint return with an eligible individual who has an SSN valid for employment.

(b) Amount of additional 2020 recovery rebate credit. Section 6428A(a) provides that the amount of the additional 2020 recovery rebate credit equals the sum of (i) $600 per eligible individual ($1,200 in the case of two eligible individuals filing a joint return) and (ii) an amount equal to the product of $600 multiplied by the number of 2020 CTC qualifying children of the eligible individual. Section 6428A(g) (3) and (4) does not take into account a 2020 CTC qualifying child who does not have an SSN valid for employment or an ATIN. Section 6428A(g) reduces the $1,200 amount for joint filers to $600 if one spouse does not have an SSN valid for employment and neither spouse was a member of the Armed Forces of the United States at any time during the taxable year. Section 6428A(c) provides phaseouts of the credit amount based on an eligible individual’s AGI. Section 6428A(e) further reduces the credit amount by the aggregate refunds allowed to the eligible individual as an advance refund in Decem-
ber 2020 and January 2021 (second-round economic impact payments).

(2) Second-round economic impact payments. Section 6428A(f) addresses the payment of advanced refunds and credits during calendar year 2020. All second-round economic impact payments have been disbursed. See § 6428A(f)(3)(A).

.05 2021 Recovery Rebate Credit and Third-Round Economic Impact Payments.

(1) 2021 recovery rebate credit. Section 9601(a) of the American Rescue Plan added § 6428B to the Code. Section 6428B(a) provides an eligible individual a refundable tax credit against the eligible individual’s Federal income tax liability (as imposed by subtitle A of the Code) for the eligible individual’s first taxable year beginning in 2021 (2021 recovery rebate credit).

(a) Definition of eligible individual. Section 6428B(c) defines the term “eligible individual” for purposes of § 6428B to mean any individual other than (i) a nonresident alien individual, (ii) an individual who is a dependent of another taxpayer (as defined in § 152) for the taxable year, or (iii) an estate or trust.

(b) Amount of 2021 recovery rebate credit. Section 6428B(a) provides that the amount of the 2021 recovery rebate credit equals the sum of (i) $1,400 per eligible individual ($2,800 in the case of a joint return) and (ii) an amount equal to the product of $1,400 multiplied by the number of the eligible individual’s dependents (within the meaning of § 152). If an eligible individual does not have an SSN, or if two eligible individuals who do not have an SSN file a joint return, § 6428B(e)(2) does not allow the $1,400 for the eligible individual or $2,800 for the joint return, but will allow an amount for dependents (as defined in § 152). Section 6428B(e)(2) reduces the $2,800 amount for a joint return to $1,400 if one spouse has an SSN, one spouse does not have an SSN, and neither spouse was a member of the Armed Forces of the United States at any time during the taxable year. Only a dependent with an SSN or an ATIN is counted for purposes of determining the amount of the 2021 recovery rebate credit. Section 6428B(e)(2) (C) and (D). For purposes of qualifying for the 2021 recovery rebate credit, any type of SSN is sufficient. See § 6428B(e)(2)(D) (i). Section 6428B(d) provides phaseouts of the credit amount based on an eligible individual’s AGI.

(2) Third-round economic impact payments. Section 6428B(g) provides eligible individuals with advance refund payments of the 2021 recovery rebate credit (third-round economic impact payments). All third-round economic impact payments must be disbursed to eligible individuals before January 1, 2022. See § 6428B(g)(3).

(a) Calculation of payment amount. If available to the Secretary as of the eligibility and payment determination date for an eligible individual, the amount of the eligible individual’s third-round economic impact payment is determined based on the eligible individual’s 2020 Federal income tax return. See § 6428B(g)(5)(A).

(b) Plus-up payments. If an eligible individual who receives the third-round economic impact payment determined before the IRS processes the eligible individual’s 2020 Federal income tax return is entitled to a larger payment based on the eligible individual’s 2019 Federal income tax return will be used to determine the amount of the eligible individual’s third-round economic impact payment. See § 6428B(g)(1), (5)(A).

.03 Purposes of Zero AGI Filing Procedure under Section 5. The Department of the Treasury (Treasury Department) and the IRS also are aware that individuals otherwise not required to file Federal income tax returns may desire to file Federal income tax returns electronically. These individuals may use tax return preparation software that does not permit them to file pursuant to the simplified procedure provided by section 4 of this revenue procedure, or the individuals may need to file complete Federal income tax returns to receive certain State or local benefits. The Treasury Department and the IRS understand that many Federal income tax returns cannot be filed electronically if the filer reports an AGI of zero (as opposed to an AGI of $1 or more) and does not claim the 2020 recovery rebate credit, the additional 2020 recovery rebate credit, or any amount as a refund. To facilitate the processing of electronic returns filed by zero AGI individuals not otherwise required to file Federal income tax returns, section 5 of this revenue procedure provides a procedure for these individuals to file complete electronic Federal income tax returns to receive (i) advance child tax credit payments and (ii) third-round economic impact payments.

SECTION 3. SCOPE

.01 Overview. To allow individuals who are not required to file a federal tax return or wish to file a federal tax return electronically to receive advance child tax credit payments, third-round economic impact payments, the 2020 recovery rebate credit, and the additional 2020 recovery rebate credit, the IRS needs certain information about these individuals that would ordinarily be provided by a federal tax return. The procedures set forth in section 4 and section 5 of this revenue procedure allow the individuals described in those sections to provide this information either in the form of a simplified return or an electronically filed return.

.02 Purpose of Simplified Procedure for Filing Simplified Paper or Electronic Tax Return if Individual Is Not Required to File a Federal Income Tax Return for Taxable Year 2020

.01 Federal Income Tax Return Filed by Mail or Electronically. Under the sim-
A simplified procedure set forth in this section 4, a simplified return may be filed, on paper or electronically, on a Form 1040, U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, Form 1040-SR, U.S. Tax Return for Seniors, or Form 1040-NR, U.S. Nonresident Alien Income Tax Return. A federal income tax return for taxable year 2020, if filed under the simplified procedure in this section 4 will result in the following:

(1) The Secretary will use the information provided on the simplified return to (i) estimate the annual advance amount for the simplified return filer, and (ii) calculate the third-round economic impact payment for which the simplified return filer is eligible. As noted in section 2.05(1)(a) of this revenue procedure, a nonresident alien is not eligible under §6428B(c) to receive third-round economic impact payments.

(2) The simplified return filer may claim the 2020 recovery rebate credit and additional 2020 recovery rebate credit when filing Form 1040 or Form 1040-SR. As noted in sections 2.03(1)(a) and 2.04(1)(a) of this revenue procedure, a nonresident alien is not eligible under §§6428(d) and 6428A(d) to claim the 2020 recovery rebate credit or additional 2020 recovery rebate credit.

.02 Definition of Simplified Return Filer. For purposes of this section 4, a “simplified return filer” is an individual (1) who is not required to file a Federal income tax return for taxable year 2020, (2) whose gross income for that taxable year is less than their applicable standard deduction amount, and (3) who has not filed a paper or electronic Federal income tax return for that taxable year. A simplified return filer, however, does not include a resident of a U.S. territory.

.03 Simplified Filing Method.

(1) Overview. In the case of a simplified return filer, the IRS will process the simplified return filer’s Form 1040, Form 1040-SR, or Form 1040-NR for taxable year 2020 to calculate the Federal income tax benefits described in section 3.01 of this revenue procedure if the form is prepared in the manner required by this section 4.03. The Form 1040, Form 1040-SR, or Form 1040-NR must include the information described in this section 4.03.

(2) Write Rev. Proc. 2021-24 on form. A simplified return filer who files the Federal income tax return by mail must indicate “Rev. Proc. 2021-24” above the printed material at the top of page 1 of the Form 1040, Form 1040-SR, or Form 1040-NR.

(3) Filing status. A simplified return filer must select their filing status for taxable year 2020 at the top of Form 1040, Form 1040-SR, or Form 1040-NR.

(4) Required general information.

(a) In general. A simplified return filer must enter their name, mailing address, and SSN or IRS individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), and the name and SSN or ITIN of their spouse if filing a joint return, on the appropriate lines of Form 1040, Form 1040-SR, or Form 1040-NR.

(b) Special rules for certain nonresident or resident alien simplified return filers. A nonresident or resident alien simplified return filer who does not have and is not eligible to receive an SSN and does not have an ITIN must attach Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, to Form 1040, Form 1040-SR, or Form 1040-NR to apply for an ITIN. Such nonresident alien simplified return filer is not eligible for the 2020 recovery rebate credit, additional 2020 recovery rebate credit, or third-round economic impact payments. Unless filing a joint return with someone who has an SSN, such resident alien simplified return filer is not eligible for the 2020 recovery rebate credit or additional 2020 recovery rebate credit. A return includes a dependent who has an SSN or an ATIN or is filed jointly with someone who has an SSN, such resident alien simplified return filer is not eligible for third-round economic impact payments.

(5) Individuals who could be claimed as dependents by other individuals. A simplified return filer must check all applicable boxes in the area immediately below the virtual currency line for each individual who could be claimed as a dependent by any other individual for taxable year 2020.

(6) General information regarding dependents.

(a) In general. A simplified return filer should provide information on the appropriate lines of Form 1040, Form 1040-SR, or Form 1040-NR regarding each dependent at the end of taxable year 2020 who has an SSN or an ATIN. For each dependent, a simplified return filer must provide the name, SSN or ATIN, and relationship to the individual.

(b) Qualifying children. A simplified return filer should check the child tax credit box in Column (4) for each dependent who has an SSN that is valid for employment and is a 2020 CTC qualifying child of the simplified return filer for taxable year 2020.

(7) Limited information to provide in lines 1 through 38. A simplified return filer must leave blank lines 1 through 38 of Form 1040 or Form 1040-SR, even if the values for these lines are in fact not zero, except as provided in this section 4.03(7):

(a) Lines 2b, 9, and 11. A simplified return filer who files their Federal income tax return electronically must enter $1 on lines 2b, 9, and 11.

(b) Line 12. A simplified return filer must enter the applicable standard deduction amount, if any, for their filing status on line 12. Form 1040-NR filers who file their Federal income tax return electronically must enter $1 on lines 7 and 8 of Schedule A (Form 1040-NR) and line 12 of Form 1040-NR.

(c) Line 15. A simplified return filer must enter $0 on line 15.

(d) Lines 30, 32, 33, 34, and 35a (2020 recovery rebate credit entries). A simplified return filer who files Form 1040 or Form 1040-SR may enter the sum of the filer’s 2020 recovery rebate credit and additional 2020 recovery rebate credit on lines 30, 32, 33, 34, and 35a. The credit amounts should be computed using the Recovery Rebate Credit Worksheet for line 30 in the 2020 Instructions for Form 1040 and 1040-SR, available at www.irs.gov/Form1040. Providing the correct amount will speed up the payment of the 2020 recovery rebate credit and additional 2020 recovery rebate credit, as well as the third-round economic impact payment. The IRS will correct any incorrect amount (other than $0) claimed on lines 30, 32, 33, 34, or 35a, but the correction will delay processing of the return and therefore enrollment for advance child tax credit payments.
(e) Line 35a checkbox (split direct deposit indicator). A simplified return filer should not check the box on line 35a because neither advance child tax credit payments, nor third-round economic impact payments, may be divided among multiple accounts.

(f) Lines 35b through 35d (direct deposit information). A simplified return filer may request the direct deposit of their advance child tax credit payments and any future third-round economic impact payment into their account at a bank or other financial institution by entering their direct deposit information on lines 35b through 35d. A simplified return filer must not request their advance child tax credit payment or third-round economic impact payment to be deposited into an account that is not in the name of that simplified return filer (for example, a simplified return filer must not request a direct deposit of their advance child tax credit payment or third-round economic impact payment into their tax return preparer’s account).

.04 Signature. A simplified return filer must sign the return under penalties of perjury, including the filer’s identity protection personal identification number (that is, the filer’s IP PIN), if applicable, as part of the filer’s signature. In addition, a simplified return filer may enter the identifying information of any third-party designee, if applicable, at the bottom of page 2 of Form 1040, Form 1040-SR, or Form 1040-NR. A simplified return filer who has been assigned an IP PIN, but has misplaced it, may retrieve the IP PIN at https://www.irs.gov/identity-theft-fraud-scams/retrieve-your-ip-pin.

.05 Simplified Return Is a Federal Income Tax Return. A simplified return is a Federal income tax return for all purposes, whether filed electronically or on paper in accordance with the procedure described in section 4.03 of this revenue procedure.

.06 Accuracy of Return. Individuals who report incorrect information regarding qualifying children or other dependents or otherwise provide incorrect information on simplified returns may be liable for civil or criminal penalties. However, the IRS will not challenge the accuracy of the items of income reported by simplified return filers on a simplified return filed in accordance with this section 4.

SECTION 5. SPECIAL PROCEDURE FOR FILING COMPLETE ELECTRONIC TAX RETURN IF INDIVIDUAL HAS NO TAXABLE YEAR 2020 ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME

.01 Federal Income Tax Return Filed Electronically.

(1) Electronic filing procedure. Subject to section 5.01(2) of this revenue procedure, under the requirements in this section 5, a zero AGI filer (as defined in section 5.02 of this revenue procedure) may file electronically Form 1040, Form 1040-SR, or Form 1040-NR for taxable year 2020. A Federal income tax return for taxable year 2020 filed under the procedure in this section 5, will result in the following:

(a) The Secretary will use the information provided in the electronic return to (i) estimate the annual advance amount for the zero AGI filer, and (ii) calculate the third-round economic impact payment for which the zero AGI filer is eligible. As noted in section 2.05(1)(a) of this revenue procedure, a nonresident alien is not eligible under § 6428B(c) to receive third-round economic impact payments.

(b) The zero AGI filer may claim the 2020 recovery rebate credit and additional 2020 recovery rebate credit when filing Form 1040 or Form 1040-SR. As noted in sections 2.03(1)(a) and 2.04(1) (a) of this revenue procedure, a nonresident alien is not eligible under §§ 6428(d) and 6428A(d) to claim the 2020 recovery rebate credit and additional 2020 recovery rebate credit, respectively.

(2) Procedure does not apply to paper returns. The special procedure in this section 5 applies only to an electronically filed return for a zero AGI filer and does not apply to a return filed on paper.

.02 Definition of Zero AGI Filer. For purposes of this section 5, a “zero AGI filer” is an individual (1) who is not required to file a Federal income tax return for taxable year 2020, (2) whose gross income for that taxable year is less than the their applicable standard deduction amount, (3) who has zero AGI for that taxable year (that is, the individual has zero AGI for that taxable year reportable on line 11 of Form 1040, Form 1040-SR, or Form 1040-NR), and (4) has not yet filed a Federal income tax return for that taxable year. A zero AGI filer, however, does not include a resident of a U.S. territory.

.03 Required Information. In addition to all other information required to be entered on Form 1040, Form 1040-SR, or Form 1040-NR, a zero AGI filer must enter the following:

(1) $1 as taxable interest on line 2b of the form;
(2) $1 as total income on line 9 of the form;
(3) $1 as AGI on line 11 of the form; and
(4) $1 as itemized deductions on lines 7 and 8 of Schedule A (Form 1040-SR) and line 12 of Form 1040-NR (Form 1040-NR filers only).

.04 Signature. A zero AGI filer must sign the return under penalties of perjury including the filer’s IP PIN, if applicable, as part of the filer’s signature. In addition, a zero AGI filer may enter the identifying information of any third-party designee, if applicable, at the bottom of page 2 of Form 1040, Form 1040-SR, or Form 1040-NR. A zero AGI filer who has been assigned an IP PIN, but has misplaced it, may retrieve the IP PIN at https://www.irs.gov/identity-theft-fraud-scams/retrieve-your-ip-pin.

.05 Accuracy of Return. Individuals who report incorrect information regarding qualifying children or other dependents or otherwise provide incorrect information on their returns may be liable for civil or criminal penalties. However, the IRS will not challenge the accuracy of the items of income reported by zero AGI filers on their returns in accordance with this section 5.

SECTION 6. DRAFTING AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The principal author of this revenue procedure is the Office of the Associate Chief Counsel (Procedure and Administration). Individuals can receive additional information regarding the third-round economic impact payments, 2020 recovery rebate credit, and additional 2020 recovery rebate credit through the IRS Economic Impact Payment phone number, 800-919-9835. The IRS will continue to provide additional information regarding advance child tax credit payments throughout 2021.
Definition of Terms

Revenue rulings and revenue procedures (hereinafter referred to as “rulings”) that have an effect on previous rulings use the following defined terms to describe the effect:

Amplified describes a situation where no change is being made in a prior published position, but the prior position is being extended to apply to a variation of the fact situation set forth therein. Thus, if an earlier ruling held that a principle applied to A but not to B, and the new ruling holds that it applies to both A and B, the prior ruling is modified because it corrects a published position. (Compare with amplified and clarified, above).

Obsoleted describes a previously published ruling that is not considered determinative with respect to future transactions. This term is most commonly used in a ruling that lists previously published rulings that are obsoleted because of changes in laws or regulations. A ruling may also be obsoleted because the substance has been included in regulations subsequently adopted.

Revoked describes situations where the position in the previously published ruling is not correct and the correct position is being stated in a new ruling.

Superseded describes a situation where the new ruling does nothing more than restate the substance and situation of a previously published ruling (or rulings). Thus, the term is used to republish under the 1986 Code and regulations the same position published under the 1939 Code and regulations. The term is also used when it is desired to republish in a single ruling a series of situations, names, etc., that were previously published over a period of time in separate rulings. If the new ruling does more than restate the substance of a prior ruling, a combination of terms is used. For example, modified and superseded describes a situation where the substance of a previously published ruling is being changed in part and is continued without change in part and it is desired to restate the valid portion of the previously published ruling in a new ruling that is self contained. In this case, the previously published ruling is first modified and then, as modified, is superseded.

Supplemented is used in situations in which a list, such as a list of the names of countries, is published in a ruling and that list is expanded by adding further names in subsequent rulings. After the original ruling has been supplemented several times, a new ruling may be published that includes the list in the original ruling and the additions, and supersedes all prior rulings in the series.

Suspended is used in rare situations to show that the previous published rulings will not be applied pending some future action such as the issuance of new or amended regulations, the outcome of cases in litigation, or the outcome of a Service study.

Abbreviations

The following abbreviations in current use and formerly used will appear in material published in the Bulletin.

A—Individual.
Acq.—Acquiescence.
B—Individual.
BE—Beneficiary.
BK—Bank.
B.T.A.—Board of Tax Appeals.
C—Individual.
C.I.—City.
C.O.P.—Cooperative.
C.D.—Court Decision.
C.Y.—County.
D—Decedent.
D.C.—Dummy Corporation.
DE—Donee.
Del. Order—Delegation Order.
DISC—Domestic International Sales Corporation.
DR—Donor.
E—Estate.
EE—Employee.
E.O.—Executive Order.
ER—Employer.

EX—Executor.
F—Fiduciary.
FC—Foreign Country.
FISC—Foreign International Sales Company.
FPH—Foreign Personal Holding Company.
F.R.—Federal Register.
FX—Foreign corporation.
G.C.M.—Chief Counsel’s Memorandum.
GE—Grantee.
GP—General Partner.
GR—Grantor.
IC—Insurance Company.
LE—Lessee.
LP—Limited Partner.
LR—Lessor.
M—Minor.
Nonacq.—Nonacquiescence.
O—Organization.
P—Parent Corporation.
PHC—Personal Holding Company.
PO—Possession of the U.S.
PR—Partner.
PRS—Partnership.
PTE—Prohibited Transaction Exemption.
Pub. L.—Public Law.
REIT—Real Estate Investment Trust.
Rev. Proc.—Revenue Procedure.
Rev. Rul.—Revenue Ruling.
S—Subsidiary.
Stat.—Statutes at Large.
T—Target Corporation.
T.C.—Tax Court.
T.D.—Treasury Decision.
TFE—Transferee.
TFR—Transferor.
TP—Taxpayer.
TR—Trust.
TT—Trustee.
V—Corporation.
Z—Corporation.

Bulletin No. 2021–29

July 19, 2021
Numerical Finding List

Bulletin 2021–29

Notices:
2021-40, 2021-28 I.R.B. 15
2021-41, 2021-29 I.R.B. 17
2021-42, 2021-29 I.R.B. 19

Revenue Procedures:
2021-28, 2021-27 I.R.B. 5
2021-29, 2021-27 I.R.B. 12
2021-24, 2021-29 I.R.B. 19

Revenue Rulings:
2021-12, 2021-27 I.R.B. 1

Finding List of Current Actions on Previously Published Items

Bulletin 2021–29

1 A cumulative list of all revenue rulings, revenue procedures, Treasury decisions, etc., published in Internal Revenue Bulletins 2021–27 through 2021–52 is in Internal Revenue Bulletin 2021–52, dated December 27, 2021.
INTERNAL REVENUE BULLETIN

The Introduction at the beginning of this issue describes the purpose and content of this publication. The weekly Internal Revenue Bulletins are available at www.irs.gov/irb/.

We Welcome Comments About the Internal Revenue Bulletin

If you have comments concerning the format or production of the Internal Revenue Bulletin or suggestions for improving it, we would be pleased to hear from you. You can email us your suggestions or comments through the IRS Internet Home Page www.irs.gov or write to the Internal Revenue Service, Publishing Division, IRB Publishing Program Desk, 1111 Constitution Ave. NW, IR-6230 Washington, DC 20224.