



IRS Nationwide Tax Forum | 2021

IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig
Keynote Address
Tuesday, July 20th, 2021

Start Time: 2:00pm Eastern / 1:00pm Central
12:00 Noon Mountain / 11:00am Pacific

Note: You should be hearing music while waiting for webinar to start.

Having Technical Issues?

View the “Technical Issues” troubleshooting guide in the Materials drop-down menu on the left side of this page

Chuck Rettig

- Became the 49th IRS Commissioner in October 2018.
- Previously worked at the law firm of Hochman, Salkin, Rettig, Toscher & Perez, P.C. in his home state of California. Represented thousands of individuals, businesses and corporate taxpayers before the IRS, the Department of Justice Tax Division, federal and state courts and state taxing authorities.
- Served on the IRS Advisory Council (IRSAC) for three years beginning in 2008 and served as IRSAC's chair from 2010 to 2011. Served as Chair of the Taxation Section of the State Bar of California and has served on the advisory boards of both the Franchise Tax Board and the Board of Equalization in California.





Economic Impact Payments

- Since March of 2020, the IRS has been working to facilitate financial assistance and administrative relief to hundreds of millions of deserving and needy Americans – including disbursing more than \$800 billion in Economic Impact Payments (EIP).
 - EIP1 (Spring/summer 2020): 160 million payments totaling \$275 billion
 - EIP2 (Dec. - Jan. 2021): 147 million payments totaling \$142 billion
 - EIP3 (Beginning March 2021) 169 million payments totaling \$395 billion as of early June
- Reminder: People who qualify for but didn't receive an EIP can still receive one by filing a 2020 tax return and claiming the Recovery Rebate Credit (RRC).
- Before filing, those claiming the RRC should check to see if they're eligible to claim other tax credits, including the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit.

Advance Child Tax Credit (CTC)

- Under the American Rescue Plan Act, up to half of the Child Tax Credit for 2021 can be advanced to eligible families between July and December 2021.
- Those eligible can receive up to \$300 per month for each child up to age 6 and \$250 per month for each child age 6 and above.
- IRS is estimating the payments using information from 2020 tax returns or, if not available, 2019 returns.
- IRS has several online tools to help people navigate the Advance CTC.
 - People can use these tools to do a number of things, such as: sending in a basic return; determining whether they qualify for advance payments; notifying IRS if they choose not to enroll in advance payments.
- Because the advance payments are based on an estimate of the 2021 CTC, recipients may need to reconcile amounts on 2021 tax returns filed in 2022.

IRS Multilingual Efforts

- Enhancing the taxpayer experience includes making it easier for people to communicate with the IRS in their most comfortable language. Recent improvements we've made in this area include:
 - Providing the Form 1040 in Spanish in 2021 for the first time.
 - Letting taxpayers indicate on their return, using Schedule LEP, whether they want to be contacted by IRS in a language other than English.
 - Issuing Publication 1, *Your Rights as a Taxpayer*, in 20 languages.
 - Providing a new, streamlined version of Publication 17, *Your Federal Income Tax*, that is available in seven languages.
 - Giving taxpayers who interact with an IRS representative access to over-the-phone interpreter services in more than 350 languages.





New Digital Services and Tools

- The IRS is enhancing the tax experience for taxpayers and their tax professionals by developing new virtual services and online tools.
- New this year: An online option for tax professionals to obtain signatures from individual and business clients and submit authorization forms electronically.
Applies to:
 - Form 2848, *Power of Attorney and Declaration of Representative*
 - Form 8821, *Tax Information Authorization*
- We're also introducing an online account for tax professionals.
 - Initially: Transactions limited to initiating a third-party authorization on IRS.gov and sending it to a client's IRS online taxpayer account.
 - Over time: IRS will continue building functionality so that more types of transactions can be completed online in a secure digital environment.



Security Summit – IDT

- The IRS and its Security Summit partners continue collaborating to increase protections against tax-related identity theft. New steps taken over the past year include the following:
 - The Identity Theft Tax Refund Fraud Information Sharing and Analysis Center (ISAC) became fully operational.
 - Software providers made multi-factor authentication a standard feature of tax software products for return filing in 2021.
 - IRS began masking sensitive data on business tax transcripts.
 - The option to obtain an Identity Protection Personal Identification Number (IP-PIN) was extended to all taxpayers.
 - IRS launched Form 14039-B, *Business Identity Theft Affidavit*.



IRS: Looking to the Future

- Along with our day-to-day work to serve the nation, the IRS is working to deliver an innovative approach to the future of tax administration. This will improve taxpayer service over the long term and position the agency and its workforce well for the future.
- Pursuant to the Taxpayer First Act, in January 2021 the IRS delivered a Report to Congress that included recommendations for organizational redesign to remove inefficiencies and enhance the taxpayer and employee experience.
- Helping to move these plans forward is the President's Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 budget proposal, which provides a significant level of funding for the IRS – an increase of more than 10.4 percent from FY 2021, if approved by Congress.
- We've begun the IRS NEXT initiative to redesign the agency's structure and operating model, with the ultimate goal of delivering exceptional tax administration well into the future. We're just at the beginning of this journey, so stay tuned for much more to come.