Raising children is expensive. The Child Tax Credit (CTC) can help. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) expanded the Child Tax Credit by expanding eligibility and increasing the maximum cash payments for children. This expansion is just for this year, but the President and Congress are working to extend it and make it permanent for years to come.

How do I get the child payments?
Families who filed federal income taxes in 2020 or 2019 or signed up for the stimulus checks using the IRS’s non-filer portal last year will receive the benefit automatically.

If you did not file your taxes in the last two years or sign up to get a stimulus check last year, there is still time to receive the CTC, but families will need to take additional action. Families should sign-up using the new CTC Non-Filer Sign-up Tool to get their CTC monthly payment and stimulus check.

How much money will I receive?
It depends on your income, how many children you have, and their ages, but most families will receive:

- $300 per month per child ages 0-5 (for a total of $3600)
- $250 per month per child ages 6-17 (for a total of $3,000)

For example, you have two children. One is 3 years-old and the other is 7 years-old. This means you will receive $6,600 over the course of the year, or $550 per month ($6,600 divided by 12 months).

Important Information for Families:
- Families do not need income to receive these child payments
- These payments will not affect eligibility for SNAP, TANF, SSI, or other federally-funded benefits; or someone’s immigration status.
- The adult claiming the credit on behalf of a child does not need a Social Security Number– they can have an Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN).