



# Congressional Update

News for Members of Congress and their staff

December 2025

## This Month's Top News



### Treasury Announces Frank Bisignano as Chief Executive Officer of the IRS

U.S. Secretary of the Treasury and Acting Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service Scott Bessent announced on October 6 that Commissioner of the Social Security Administration Frank Bisignano will serve as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the IRS.

[\(Full article on page 2\)](#)



### EITC Awareness Day set for Friday, January 23

IRS and partners around the nation are planning the annual Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Awareness Day campaign.

[\(Full article on page 2\)](#)



### The IRS to phase out paper tax refund checks starting with individual taxpayers

The Internal Revenue Service, working with the U.S. Department of the Treasury, announced that paper tax refund checks for individual taxpayers will be phased out beginning on Sept. 30, 2025...

[\(Full article on page 3\)](#)

### Treasury, IRS provide guidance for individuals who received tips or overtime during tax year 2025

The Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service issued **guidance** for workers eligible to claim the deduction for tips and for overtime compensation for tax year 2025.



## Let us help your constituents

How can your constituents find out if they qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit and other credits?

See [Earned Income Tax Credit \(EITC\)](#) | [Internal Revenue Service](#)



## Table of Contents



- Treasury, IRS provide guidance for individuals who received tips or overtime during tax year 2025 ..... 1
- Treasury Department Announces Frank Bisignano as Chief Executive Officer of the IRS ..... 2
- EITC Awareness Day set for Friday, January 23..... 2
- The IRS issues FAQs to address Employee Retention Credits..... 2

- The IRS to phase out paper tax refund checks starting with individual taxpayers ..... 3
- IRS Tips ..... 3
- Connect with IRS ..... 4
- Connect with TAS ..... 4

## Treasury Department Announces Frank Bisignano as Chief Executive Officer of the IRS

U.S. Secretary of the Treasury and Acting Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service Scott Bessent announced on October 6 that Commissioner of the Social Security Administration Frank Bisignano will serve as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the IRS.

In this newly created position, Mr. Bisignano will report directly to Acting Commissioner Bessent, managing the organization and overseeing all day-to-day IRS operations while also continuing to serve in his role as Commissioner of the Social Security Administration.

“Frank is a businessman with an exceptional track record of driving growth and efficiency in the private and now public sector,” said Secretary of the Treasury Scott Bessent. The IRS and SSA – two of the most public-facing and broadly impactful federal agencies – also share many of the same technological and customer service goals. This makes Mr. Bisignano a natural choice for this role. “Under his leadership at the SSA, he has already made important and substantial progress, and we are



Frank Bisignano, IRS Chief Executive Officer

pleased that he will bring this expertise to the IRS as we sharpen our focus on collections, privacy, and customer service in order to deliver better outcomes for hardworking Americans.”

Frank J. Bisignano, the 18th Senate-confirmed Commissioner of the U.S. Social Security Administration, is a proven leader with more than four decades of experience guiding some of the world’s largest financial institutions and technology companies through transformation and growth. Prior to leading SSA, Bisignano served as Chairman and CEO of Fiserv, the world’s largest financial services and payment technology company. In 2019, he led the merger of Fiserv and First Data while he was serving as CEO of the latter company. While at J.P. Morgan Chase in the 2000’s, Bisignano was the co-Chief Operating Officer and served as the CEO of its Mortgage Banking unit. He also previously held several roles at Citigroup, including Chief Administrative Officer and CEO of the company’s Global Transaction Services unit.



### EITC Awareness Day set for Friday, January 23

IRS and partners around the nation are planning the annual Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Awareness Day campaign.

EITC Day which will take place on Friday, January 23 (now in its 20th year) helps increase awareness among the millions of working Americans with a

low-to-moderate income who are eligible for the EITC. The IRS estimates that roughly one in five eligible taxpayers miss out on claiming this valuable credit.

The EITC was signed into law on March 29, 1975. Through numerous legislative changes, the tax break has helped encourage work and lift many financially challenged families out of poverty.

### The IRS issues FAQs to address Employee Retention Credits under ERC compliance provisions of the One, Big, Beautiful Bill

IRS issued frequently asked questions in [Fact Sheet 2025-07](#) relating to the limitation on credits and refunds for Employee Retention Credits claimed for the third and fourth quarters of 2021 that were filed after Jan. 31, 2024. This limitation was enacted under the One, Big, Beautiful Bill.

The FAQs discuss the limitation generally, when a claim is considered to be timely filed, and what appeals rights are available if an ERC claimed on a return is disallowed.

More information about [reliance is available](#) on [IRS.gov](#).

FAQ

## The IRS to phase out paper tax refund checks starting with individual taxpayers

The Internal Revenue Service, working with the U.S. Department of the Treasury, today announced paper tax refund checks for individual taxpayers will be phased out beginning on Sept. 30, 2025, as required by [Executive Order 14247](#), to the extent permitted by law. This change marks the first step of the broader transition to electronic payments.

The IRS will publish detailed guidance for 2025 tax returns before the 2026 filing season begins. Until further notice, taxpayers should continue using existing forms and procedures, including those filing their 2024 returns on extension of a due date prior to Dec. 31, 2025.

### The change is designed to

- › **Protect taxpayers:** Paper checks are over 16 times more likely to be lost, stolen, altered, or delayed than electronic payments. Direct deposit also avoids the possibility that a refund check could be returned to the IRS as undeliverable.
- › **Speed up refunds:** Electronic **refunds** give taxpayers faster access to refunds, with payments issued in less than 21 days if filing electronically, choosing direct deposit and there are no issues with the return, whereas nonelectronic payments may take 6 weeks or longer for refunds sent by mail.
- › **Cut costs:** Electronic payments are more efficient and cost less than paper.

### What this means for individual taxpayers

- › **Filing stays the same:** Taxpayers should continue to file their returns as they normally would, using one of the existing **filing options**.
- › **Refunds go digital:** Most refunds will be delivered by direct deposit or other secure electronic methods.
- › **Help for those without access to bank accounts:** Options such as prepaid debit cards, digital wallets or limited exceptions will be available.
- › **Act now:** Taxpayers should make sure they know their banking information or consider opening a free or low-cost account. Visit [FDIC: GetBanked](#) and [MyCreditUnion.gov](#) for account options.

Most individual taxpayers already receive their refunds by direct deposit into their bank accounts. During the 2025 **tax filing season**, the IRS issued more than 93.5 million tax refunds to individual income tax filers, and 93% of those, almost 87 million refunds, were issued through direct deposit. Only 7 percent of individual refund recipients received their refunds by check through the mail.

### Next steps

Executive Order 14247 also applies to payments made to the IRS. Taxpayers should continue to use existing **payment options** until further notice. Additional guidance and information for filing 2025 taxes will be issued prior to the 2026 filing season.

The IRS will share updated guidance on [IRS.gov/modern-payments](#) and through outreach efforts nationwide.



## IRS Tips

Helpful taxpayer information on a variety of topics

### [Tax professionals have until Dec. 31 to renew their Preparer Tax Identification number](#)

The IRS is reminding tax professionals to renew their Preparer Tax Identification numbers now, if they haven't already.

### [Nationwide Tax Forum Online adds latest 2025 seminars and content](#)

Tax professionals can visit the IRS Nationwide Tax Forum Online for newly added seminars and content from the 2025 Nationwide Tax Forum.

## Get Help on IRS.gov



- > [Filing](#)
- > [Payments](#)
- > [Refunds](#)
- > [Credits and Deductions](#)
- > [Forms and Instructions](#)
- > [Tax Questions](#)
- > [IRS in other languages](#)

Basic tax information is available in 21 languages, including English

- > [IRS2Go](#) is the official mobile app of the IRS, available in both English and Spanish.

## Additional information on IRS.gov



- > [One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025 provisions](#)
- > [Treasury, IRS provide guidance for individuals who received tips or overtime during tax year 2025](#)
- > [Treasury, IRS provide transition relief for 2025 for businesses reporting car loan interest under the One, Big, Beautiful Bill](#)
- > [IRS issues FAQs on Form 1099-K threshold under the One, Big, Beautiful Bill; dollar limit reverts to \\$20,000](#)
- > [Treasury, IRS provide penalty relief for tax year 2025 for information reporting on tips and overtime under the One, Big, Beautiful Bill](#)
- > [401\(k\) limit increases to \\$24,500 for 2026, IRA limit increases to \\$7,500](#)
- > [Tax professionals can prepare now to assist their clients with reporting proceeds from certain digital asset transactions | Internal Revenue Service](#)
- > [IRS extends relief to farmers and ranchers affected by drought in 49 states, other regions](#)
- > [Revocation or denial of passport in cases of certain unpaid taxes | Internal Revenue Service](#)
- > [Tax relief in disaster situations](#)
- > [Understanding your IRS notice or letter | Internal Revenue Service](#)
- > [Need to respond to a letter or notice? Use the Document Upload Tool](#)
- > [Where's My Refund?](#)
- > [Get an Identity Protection PIN \(IP PIN\)](#)
- > [Processing status for tax forms | Internal Revenue Service](#)

### Connect with IRS



### Connect with TAS



The **IRS Congressional Update** is a monthly newsletter prepared by IRS Legislative Affairs. For information on resolving taxpayer account issues, visit the [Taxpayer Advocate Service](#).