

SENIORS & the 2008 ECONOMIC STIMULUS REBATE

Your Social Security is Qualifying Income!
You Must File a Tax Return To Get It!

The Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 lets many households get at least a \$300 (\$600 if filing a joint return) rebate.

Seniors can get this payment if they have enough of the right kind of income and file a 2007 federal tax return.

QUALIFYING INCOME. Seniors must have at least \$3,000 in "Qualifying Income". This includes earned income as well as Social Security and other government payments like certain Veteran or Railroad Retirement benefits. It does not include SSI income. If you get SSI, your Social Security or other qualifying income must be at least \$3,000.

FILE A 2007 TAX RETURN. Even if you do not normally have to file a tax return, you must file a 2007 tax return to get this rebate. Most seniors will need to fill out and file an IRS Form 1040 or 1040A.

WHERE TO GET HELP. Individuals who need help filing a 2007 tax return should contact one of the following free tax preparation sites for low-income and elderly taxpayers:

VITA. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program helps taxpayers with low or moderate income. Call 1-800-906-9887 to find the nearest VITA site.

AARP Tax Aide. AARP provides free tax help to people 60 and older at a number of Iowa sites. To find an AARP Tax Aide site call 1-888-227-7669 or visit the AARP website at www.aarp.org.

If you are over 60 and have general questions, you can contact the Legal Hotline for Older Iowans at 1-800-992-8161.

This information is provided by the Legal Hotline for Older Iowans, a project of Iowa Legal Aid that is partially funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging. The Hotline is a free, confidential service for all Iowans 60 or older with questions about non-criminal legal matters.