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**AARP and NCOA Launch New Resource as Part of Stimulus
Payment Education Campaign**

*Easy to understand materials and consumer
education at heart of ongoing efforts.*

Washington, DC – The AARP Foundation and the National Council on Aging (NCOA) today launched a user-friendly online tool to simplify the economic stimulus payment application process for millions of Americans who are not otherwise required to file income tax returns. The online tool can be found at www.aarp.org/stimulus.

The online tool, developed with expertise from AARP Tax Aide (an AARP Foundation tax assistance and preparation program offered in conjunction with the Internal Revenue Service), is the latest effort in AARP's campaign to help older Americans learn how to apply for stimulus payments and protect themselves from fraud.

Earlier this year, AARP helped lead efforts in Washington, DC, to expand stimulus eligibility to include approximately 20 million Americans who primarily depend on Social Security, certain railroad retirement income or veterans' disability income.

“Having successfully advocated for the expansion of the stimulus package, we recognize our responsibility in making the stimulus payment process as simple as possible,” said Tom Nelson, AARP's Chief Operating Officer. “From day one, AARP has been working to make sure people have the information and resources they need to receive their stimulus payments.”

The new online resource allows users to print out a completed economic stimulus form after answering a few simple questions. This tool can also be used by trusted loved ones and volunteers to help those in need without internet access.

“The Stimulus Payment Tool developed jointly by AARP Tax Aide and NCOA's BenefitsCheckUp® makes available in one place on the Internet, simple, easy-to-understand instructions for low income seniors to apply for the economic stimulus payment,” said Stuart Spector, NCOA Senior Vice President. “Coupled with the ability to complete and print the IRS 1040A form, with personalized instructions on where to mail it, the Stimulus Payment Tool will make it easy for filers, and their trusted intermediaries, family members and caregivers, to take the necessary actions to get the stimulus payment they are entitled to.”

AARP staff and volunteers have been working with the IRS, Social Security Administration, and other organizations to inform and equip those who are eligible for the stimulus payments but are not otherwise required to file income tax returns. Key tips for filers include:

- ***Applications for the stimulus payments are not subject to the April 15th tax filing deadline.*** The IRS is accepting stimulus payment forms until the Fall, providing time for individuals to answer any questions and safely file their stimulus applications.
- ***Individuals should beware of stimulus payment scams.*** Scammers are calling and emailing individuals asking for personal information, including Social Security numbers and bank account information. The IRS never emails or calls tax payers asking for personal information – individuals should not give information to people posing as IRS representatives over the phone or through email.
- ***Resources are available for those who have questions or need help.*** AARP offers a number of resources on its website including a set of Frequently Asked Questions, printable easy-to-understand instructions for filling out a stimulus application, and the new online tool. AARP Foundation’s Tax Aide volunteers are available online to answer questions throughout the year with more complicated stimulus filings.

“We are encouraging friends, family and community organizations across the nation to join the 32,000 volunteers at AARP Foundation’s Tax Aide program who are looking out for and helping older Americans securely receive their stimulus payments,” said Nelson. “Print out the instructions or use the online tool – straightforward ways to help every person who is eligible for a payment get one.”

To learn more about how to apply for your stimulus payment and help others apply, visit www.aarp.org/stimulus or www.aarp.org/taxaide.

About AARP

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization that helps people 50+ have independence, choice and control in ways that are beneficial and affordable to them and society as a whole. AARP does not endorse candidates for public office or make contributions to either political campaigns or candidates. We produce AARP The Magazine, the definitive voice for 50+ Americans and the world's largest-circulation magazine with over 33 million readers; AARP Bulletin, the go-to news source for AARP's 39 million members and Americans 50+; AARP Segunda Juventud, the only bilingual U.S. publication dedicated exclusively to the 50+ Hispanic community; and our website, AARP.org. AARP Foundation is an affiliated charity that provides security, protection, and empowerment to older persons in need with support from thousands of volunteers, donors, and sponsors. We have staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

About AARP Foundation

The AARP Foundation is AARP’s affiliated charity. Foundation programs provide security, protection and empowerment for older persons in need. Low-income older workers receive the job training and placement they need to re-join the workforce. Free tax preparation is provided for low- and moderate-income individuals, with special attention to those 60 and older. The Foundation’s litigation staff protects the legal rights of older Americans in critical health, long-term care, consumer and employment situations. Additional programs provide information, education and services to ensure that people over 50 lead lives of independence, dignity and purpose. Foundation programs are funded by grants, tax-deductible contributions and AARP. For more information, visit www.aarpfoundation.org.