

What is the new \$600 rule on Venmo? \$600 and Venmo

The \$600 Venmo Rule: What Actually Happened

For years, a single number caused widespread panic among Venmo, PayPal, and Cash App users: \$600. The rule stemmed from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which was set to require payment apps to send the IRS a Form 1099-K anytime someone received more than \$600 in business income — with no minimum number of transactions required. That was a massive drop from the previous threshold of \$20,000 and 200 transactions.

The fear was understandable. Casual sellers worried that reselling an old couch or splitting a vacation rental could trigger a tax form. Freelancers braced for a flood of paperwork over routine client payments.

But here's the twist: it never fully took effect. The IRS delayed the rollout three separate times, citing taxpayer confusion and processing concerns. Then, in July 2025, Congress passed the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which permanently repealed the \$600 threshold altogether and restored the original \$20,000/200-transaction limit.

So what's the rule now, in 2026? Venmo only has to send you a 1099-K if you receive more than \$20,000 in payments for goods and services *and* have more than 200 transactions in a calendar year. Personal transfers — splitting dinner, paying rent to a roommate, birthday gifts — were never counted toward this threshold and still aren't.

One catch worth knowing: a handful of states set their own, lower reporting thresholds (some as low as \$600), so you could still receive a form even if you're nowhere near the federal limit.

The most important takeaway: the reporting threshold only determines who gets a tax form in the mail — it doesn't determine what's taxable. All income from goods or services is reportable, whether or not a 1099-K ever shows up.

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