

Trump administration to begin accepting tariff refund applications

The U.S. government said April 10 it will start processing the first phase of refunds of President Donald Trump's IEEPA tariffs, after the Supreme Court ruled them illegal in February. (Pexels)

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April 13, 2026 10:24 AM EDT

The U.S. government will start accepting refund applications on April 20 for President Donald Trump's tariffs that the Supreme Court declared illegal in February.

The U.S. Custom and Border Protection agency [announced](#) April 10 that it will begin processing the first phase of refunds of about \$170 billion in tariffs collected under Trump's use of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

Many plastics companies were among the roughly 3,000 that have [filed lawsuits](#) seeking IEEPA refunds.

CBP said the initial focus of refunds will be on cases where the final duties that companies owe have not been calculated, known as liquidation, or for tariffs that recently have been declared final.

"Phase 1 is limited to certain unliquidated entries and certain entries within 80 days of liquidation," CBP said in a [statement](#) on its website.

It said it would [roll out procedures](#) for more complicated refunds later as it adds functionality to the online system. In total, more than 300,000 companies are believed to have paid IEEPA tariffs and could be eligible for refunds.

The latest CBP announcement suggests the refund procedures are moving ahead, after Trump declared, in response to the Supreme Court ruling, that refunds could "get litigated for the next two years."

One trade lawyer said at a *Plastics News* event in March that it was not clear how quickly refunds would be paid or how much scrutiny claims would receive but hailed the development of administrative procedures.