

Unemployment Benefits Identity Fraud

What to do if someone uses your personal information to claim Unemployment Benefits in Texas

Report the Fraud to the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)

If someone uses your Social Security number (SSN) to file a claim, you should report the fraud using TWC's secure online Fraud portal. Provide your name, SSN, and contact information.

TWC Fraud Portal – <https://apps.twc.texas.gov/UiFraudSubmission/uifs/uifraud>.

Upload copies of any claim documents you received from TWC along with a copy of your driver license to prove your identity.

You only need to submit the ID fraud report once. TWC will only contact you if we need more information so you may not receive a call, email, or letter in response to the fraud report.

If an employer receives a "Notice of Unemployment Benefits Application" for someone who didn't file the claim, the employer should follow the instructions on the notice and indicate the claim was filed by an imposter. The person whose name is on the claim should report the ID fraud using the Fraud portal.

Find more information about Unemployment Benefits ID Fraud at twc.texas.gov/UI-ID-fraud.

If you are unable to use the online portal, you may email twc.fraud@twc.state.tx.us or leave a message on the Fraud Hotline at 800-252-3642. You must include your full name, SSN, address, phone number, and a description of the information you have regarding the ID fraud claim.

File Your Tax Return

When you file your federal income tax return, you are required to report income you received. However, you should not report income that you did not receive. Everyone who receives unemployment benefits will get an IRS Form 1099-G (Certain Government Payments), which is used to report the income on your tax returns. If you get a Form 1099-G but did not receive any or all the benefits listed on the 1099-G, report the fraud to on TWC's Fraud portal and visit the IRS website for information on unemployment benefits ID fraud.

IRS ID Theft page: irs.gov/identity-theft-fraud-scams/identity-theft-and-unemployment-benefits.

Protect Your Credit

Victims of identity theft are advised to take the following actions:

- File a report with your local police and get an incident report and number.
- Go to the Federal Trade Commission website (consumer.ftc.gov/features/identity-theft) for prevention tips and resources.
- Contact one of the three credit reporting agencies and ask that a fraud alert be placed on your credit report, and, if needed, ask to have your credit account frozen. Also ask for a free credit report and review your reports for fraud.
 - Equifax – 800-349-9960 – equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/.
 - Experian – 888-397-3742 – experian.com/help.
 - TransUnion – 888-909-8872 – transunion.com/credit-help.
- If your bank or credit union account was compromised, contact the fraud department of each institution. Report the identity theft and, if needed, ask them to close or freeze the compromised account.

