

Unemployment Benefits Identity Theft

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 you are not claiming unemployment benefits and have information that a claim was filed using your identity, report the ID theft claim on TWC's online portal. Provide your name, social security number, and contact information. Upload copies of any claim documents you received from TWC along with a copy of your driver's license, which TWC uses to verify your identity. Individuals who report fraud do not always receive a call, email, or letter in response to the information provided. TWC will only contact you if we need clarification.

- English: <https://mft.twc.state.tx.us/form/UIfraudENG>
- Spanish: <https://mft.twc.state.tx.us/form/UIfraudESP>

We recommend using the secure online portal to report any suspected ID theft claim. However, if you cannot use the portal, you may send an email to TWC.fraud@twc.state.tx.us or leave a message on the Fraud Hotline at 800-252-3642. You must include your full name, Social Security number, address, phone number, and a description of the information you have regarding the ID theft claim.



Your employer may receive a "Notice of Unemployment Benefits Application" from TWC informing them that a claim was filed using your name. If they receive this notice and you did not file the claim, tell your employer to follow the instructions for responding to the notice and indicate the claim was filed by an imposter.

Find more information about Unemployment Benefits ID Theft on twc.texas.gov/UI-ID-theft

Protect Your Credit

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

- Contact the police department in the city in which you reside and get an incident report and number.
- Visit the Federal Trade Commission website (ftc.gov/idtheft) for prevention tips and resources.
- Contact one of the three credit reporting agencies listed below and ask that a free 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.

File Your Tax Return

When you file your federal income tax return, you must report income you received, but 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), used for reporting the income on your tax returns. If you get a Form 1099-G but didn't collect any or all the benefits listed on the Form, report the fraud to TWC using the Unemployment Fraud Submission portal and visit the IRS website for guidance on ID theft involving unemployment benefits. (irs.gov/identity-theft-fraud-scams/identity-theft-and-unemployment-benefits)