



February 25, 2021

RE: Reporting 1099 Identity Theft Update

Recently, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) launched new resources for Ohioans who may be the victim of identity theft and unemployment fraud. Those who believe their identity has been compromised and used to file a fraudulent unemployment claim should follow these steps:

1. Visit unemployment.ohio.gov, click on “Report Identity Theft,” and complete the secure online form. As an alternative, individuals may call (833) 658-0394, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Calls outside those hours may be answered by other agents in the call center.
2. Follow the [IRS guidance to taxpayers](#) on identity theft involving unemployment benefits.
3. Take steps to protect their identity by following the guidance posted on the ODJFS website.

Unfortunately, identity theft is a widespread national challenge. Many Ohioans have become victims, and their identities used to file fraudulent unemployment claims in both the traditional unemployment and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance programs. In many cases, individuals become aware their identity was compromised when they receive a 1099-G form or other notification referencing unemployment benefits they never applied for or received.

ODJFS is grateful to its partners for helping to spread the word about these resources. Thank you for your time and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Office of Unemployment Insurance Operations
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services