

Verify a claim has been filed in your name and SSN.

Secure Access Washington. By registering an account, you can: (1) check to make sure that no unemployment claim has been filed on your behalf; and (2) make it more difficult for a fraudulent claim to be filed. Here are the steps to register an account:

1. Go to this website and create a SAW account: <https://secureaccess.wa.gov/public/saw/pub/submitRegister1.do>
2. It will ask you verify your email, so check it and click the link to verify your email
3. This just creates the SAW account with your email but doesn't yet connect it with any Personal Identifying Information (PII) so you'll need to go into the Unemployment website to essentially start the application for a claim to then connect your PII to your SAW account
4. Go to this website: <https://secure.esd.wa.gov/home/>
5. Login with your new SAW login and password
6. Click "apply for unemployment benefits..."
7. Click the "CONTINUE" button for the first link "If you're an unemployment claimant, a job seeker, or if you want to send us a message or look up your past wages"
8. It should prompt you to fill out your PII

Then log out. You didn't file for unemployment, just connected your PII with your SAW account.

If a claim has been filed, take the following steps:

Step One –

Contact HR • Contact your organizations HR staff to coordinate and report the incident to your employer.

Step Two – Contact WA State ESD • Call the WA State Employment Security Dept (ESD). at 800-246-9763 to report the fraud. • You will need the following information for identity verification. • Last 4 of your SSN: • Date of birth, address • Current phone # • Information on how you learned a claim was filed on your behalf • Or contact ESD via an online form.

Step Three- Protect yourself from additional identity theft by going to <https://www.identitytheft.gov/>. It is a website put together by the Federal Trade Commission.

Step Four– Police Report • File an online or non-emergency report with the agency whose jurisdiction you live in. • Start keeping a file folder or journal with the information from this incident, including any case numbers. Some government services and accommodations are available to victims of identity theft that are not available to the general public, such as getting certain public records sealed.



*An alliance of the independent grocery and
convenience store industries.*

Step Five – The Three Major Credit Bureaus • Obtain your free credit reports from Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion at Annual Credit Report • or call 1-877-322-8228 • Report to the credit bureaus that the fraudulent claim was made using your identity and provide them with the case number from your police report. You can have a fraud alert put on your identity or freeze your credit. Doing either is free by law.

- A fraud alert is free and will make it harder for someone to open new accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert, contact one of the three credit bureaus. That company must tell the other two.
- Experian 1-888-397-3742 • TransUnion 1-800-680-7289 • Equifax 1-888-766-0008
- Check your credit activity at least once a year. As a victim of identity-theft you have the right to check it monthly if you choose.
- Credit Freeze – If you do not have upcoming large purchases, such as a home, you may want to freeze your credit for more protection. It is free and you can do it yourself.