Steps to protect your UI account and lower your exposure to cyber fraud

# PROTECT YOUR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) ACCOUNT FROM CYBER FRAUD

#### **Create a Strong Password**

Include a combination of upper and lowercase letters, numbers, and special characters. Avoid reusing passwords, easy-to-guess words such as, family member names, pet names, and birthdates. Consider using a password manager tool to securely create and store your passwords. Never write down your passwords.

## **Review your UI Claim Often**

Make sure your password, direct deposit banking information, and address have not been changed.

### **Beware of Fraud Schemes**

People try to steal your personal information by getting you to click on a link in an email or text message which often contain threats about your UI benefits if you do not respond. If you receive such a message, immediately contact NCDES, and check the website for alerts on scams affecting UI claimants.

#### Enable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

If offered, enable MFA to help protect your UI account. MFA adds a second layer of security by requiring a one-time code from a secondary device, such as your cell phone, to complete the login process.

#### Use Secure Internet Connections

If you need to use public Wi-Fi to access your UI account, go to a secure site such as a public library or a North Carolina workforce office. If using Wi-Fi from other public locations, use a Virtual Private Network. Always make sure no one can see your login credentials.

## **Update Device Software**

Ensure the software for your computer, smartphone, and other electronic devices is updated often. Be sure to add anti-virus and anti-malware software for monitoring.



REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY ON YOUR ACCOUNT IMMEDIATELY TO NCDES!

