

What is Unemployment Insurance Benefits Fraud?

Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits provide temporary financial assistance to qualified people. Each person who collects UI benefits is legally responsible for making sure they follow the rules set by state law.

To be eligible for UI benefits, you must:

1. Have lost your job through no fault of your own.
2. Have earned enough wages.
3. Be able and available to work.
4. Actively look for a new job.

Keep these key facts in mind when you are filing for UI benefits to ensure accurate and quick payment of benefits.

Questions?



Visit des.nc.gov



Call
888-737-0259

If you **report false or inaccurate information on purpose** to get Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits, you are committing UI fraud. **UI fraud** can lead to **serious consequences**.

Here are common examples of UI fraud:

- Continuing to claim UI benefits after you found a full-time job.
- Making money from a part-time or temporary job while you are on UI benefits and do not report those wages in your weekly certifications.
- Giving false information or not sharing information to DES in your initial claim, weekly certification, or in response to questions about your claim.

If you commit UI fraud, you may:

- Be prosecuted by government authorities.
- Get possible jail or prison time.
- Have to repay any UI benefits collected, plus penalties.
- Have to give up future income tax refund money.
- Lose your right to collect UI benefits in the future.

If you collect unemployment benefits, you are legally responsible for making sure you follow all the rules. Remember to:

1. Register at NCWorks.gov.*
2. Actively look for a job each week.
3. File your weekly certification for each week you want benefits.
4. Report any wages you earned.
5. Know your responsibilities and answer questions accurately.



NC DEPARTMENT
of COMMERCE
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

* *NCWorks is the state entity that provides various career services to people looking for a job. It is a separate organization from the N.C. Division of Employment Security.*