

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Department of Employment Services

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Employer Updates – September 2013

Preventing Unemployment Fraud and Overpayments

Don't let it happen to you! Whenever Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits are paid from your account to someone who is not entitled to them, your UI account is charged, and your experience rating may be negatively affected.

Here's how you can protect your experience rating and control charges to your account:

1. **Report Individuals** who are newly hired, rehired, or returning to work to the DC Directory of New Hires; <https://dc-newhire.com/>.
2. **Review your Quarterly Contribution and Wage Report** to ensure that the information about former employees is accurate.
3. **Report accurate employee separation information** to DOES.
4. **Participate in interviews** that determine a former employee's eligibility for benefits.
5. **Answer requests for weekly wage information** from DOES.

DOES continues to assist employers in the efforts to prevent UI fraud. In July 2012, DOES began "Deter, Detect, and Collect," a campaign to create a fraud awareness for claimants, and in August 2013, DOES expanded the campaign by featuring our anti-fraud branding in local publications, and on metro trains and buses throughout the District.

For more information about UI Fraud and ways to educate your employees about fraud prevention visit: <http://does.dc.gov/page/what-unemployment-insurance-fraud>. To report known instances of fraud, call 1-877-FRAUD60.

New Changes in Worker Misclassification

Improper worker misclassification can cost you! DOES has renewed efforts to ensure employer compliance, and will begin performing random audits on employers. These audits will ensure that you have properly classified all of your workers, and that all of your UI taxes are paid under the District of Columbia Unemployment Compensation Act.

Using Electronic Resources

Did you know that DOES has electronic resources available at no cost to employers?

DOES encourages you to use our electronic resources in order to simplify your interactions with DOES, and in order to save time and money on paper and mailings.

DC Networks

DC Networks is a resource that allows employers to place job openings online, and it also allows employers to check any UI filings that have been posted against their account. To register your business with DC Networks, visit:

www.dcnetworks.org.

SIDES

DOES is pleased to announce our implementation of the State Information Data Exchange System Electronic Response (SIDES E-Response). SIDES E-Response provides DC employers a secure, nationally standardized, electronic method to receive and submit unemployment insurance “Request for Separation Information” forms. For more information about how SIDES E-Response can benefit your business, visit: <https://info.uisides.org/>.

Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)

You can earn tax credits for your business! The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a Federal tax credit that is available to employers who hire from specific target groups. As an incentive to hiring workers who face significant barriers to employment, participating employers can be eligible to reduce their tax liability. Employers can qualify for a tax credit between \$1,200 and \$9,600 per employee hired. For more information about WOTC, visit: <http://does.dc.gov/page/work-opportunity-tax-credit>.

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For more information about the District of Columbia Office of Unemployment Compensation and information pertinent to employers, visit the DOES Employer Handbook at: <http://does.dc.gov/node/539002>, or call 202-698-7550.