1. **What is Direct Deposit?**

Direct Deposit is the electronic transfer of your Unemployment Insurance (UI) payment to your bank. Direct Deposit is a safe, quick and easy way to receive your UI benefits. It removes the risk of mail delays, lost or stolen checks and the time it takes for you to cash or deposit your check. When you enroll in the service, you are authorizing the Department of Employment Services to credit your bank account each time you file for and are entitled to receive benefits.

1. **What information do I need to enroll?**

* Your financial institution’s name
* Your financial institution’s nine (9) digit routing number, which is usually located between the  symbols on your check
* Your account number (Up to 17 digits), which is typically located before the  symbol on your check
* The type of account. You can choose to deposit to a checking or savings account

1. **How do I sign up?**

The easiest way to enroll is by completing the enrollment form presented when you click the **Enroll Now** button on this website.

1. **How long does it take for services to begin?**

Once the bank verifies your account information and you next file your continued claim form, payment will be transferred, provided you are eligible for benefits, to the financial institution you have specified.

If there is a problem with the account information you have provided, we will notify you immediately and a paper check will be generated and mailed to your address of record.

1. **When can I expect my payment to be deposited into my account?**

Payment will generally be available two business days after we process your continued claim form. As an example, if we process your claim form on a Monday and you are eligible for benefits, payment will be deposited into your account on the following Wednesday!

1. **What record will I receive of my UI Deposits?**

You will receive a notice by mail that we have made direct payment to your account. Your financial institution will also provide a record of the UI deposits made to your account on your monthly statements. The Payment History page on this site will also document that Direct Deposit has occurred.

1. **Can I participate in Direct Deposit if I have a joint account?**

Yes. However, the Department IS NOT able to release UI payment information to other holders on the account. This Department WILL NOT involve itself in disputes regarding use of funds deposited to a joint account. This Department WILL NOT ALLOW any deposit of benefit payments to a 3rd Party account (one that the claimant is not a legal holder/signer of).

1. **Must my bank be located in the District of Columbia?**

No. We can deposit to most any financial institution located in the United States. Before enrolling, you should confirm that your financial institution accepts Direct Deposits.

1. **Can I deposit only a portion of my benefit payments to an account?**

No. If you elect to enroll in Direct Deposit services, the full amount of the payment will be made to a single account of your choice.

1. **Can I still have Federal and District of Columbia taxes withheld when using Direct Deposit?**

Yes. If you requested to have Federal and District of Columbia taxes deducted from your weekly benefits when you filed your Initial Claim, this will continue for the duration of your benefit year, unless otherwise requested.