

- 1. Remember to wear **Red for Ed** on Wednesday. Take a picture (send to <u>Lama</u>) to show your support for public education. #LWEAPround
- 2. **Fraud Watch!** You may have heard about fraudulent unemployment insurance claims begin filed in Washington state.

How will I know if I am impacted? Employers are required to verify each claim, so if someone has filed a fraudulent claim in your name, the district will be contacting you. You will also receive a letter in the mail from the Employment Security Department notifying you that a claim has been filed in your name. If you didn't file the claim, the district will follow up with information on how to report the fraud.

What do I do if someone has filed a fraudulent claim in my name? If you have been unable to reach the Employment Security Department by phone, <u>use this link</u> to let them know you have not filed a claim. Information you will need to report the fraudulent claim:

- Your name
- Copy of your photo ID
- The last four digits of your social security number
- Your date of birth
- Your address
- Your current phone number
- Information on how you learned a claim was filed on your behalf

You might also want to...

- ✓ file an online or nonemergency police report with your police department. They may be able to point you to services and protections for victims of identity theft.
- ✓ contact the three major credit bureaus (Experian, TransUnion, Equifax) to notify them of a fraudulent claim filed in your name and get a <u>free credit report</u>.

Read more about fraudulent ESD claims

- Seattle Times on what to do if you name is used by unemployment fraudsters takin advantage of coronavirus crisis.
- * KOMO news on steps you can take to monitor your credit reports and further protect yourself.

3. Unemployment resources You might know someone who needs unemployment or support for accessing unemployment. State and federal expansions make unemployment insurance available to almost anyone who has lost work or opportunity because of coronavirus. People laid off from full- or part-time work, who did gig work, or are working a reduced schedule can apply now. The latest action by Congress means that self-employed people will be able to apply too, and benefits for everyone will increase by \$600 per week through July. Apply at https://www.esd.wa.gov/

If someone is denied a state leave or cannot access unemployment insurance, these resources may help:

- * Unemployment Law Project
- * State Labor & Industries
- * Washington State Employment Security Department
- * City of Seattle Office of Labor Standards
- * Fair Work Center, 844-485-1195
- * Northwest Justice Project, in King Co call: 211; outside King Co: 888-201-1014
- * Washington LawHelp