

Claiming Unemployment Benefits on Your Taxes

About Your 1099-G Tax Form

Q. Why did I receive a 1099-G tax form from the Idaho Department of Labor?

A. If you collected or repaid unemployment insurance benefits in 2020, you were mailed a summary of the benefit payments you received. The 1099-G form shows the total taxable unemployment compensation issued to you from the state of Idaho for a calendar year.

Q. Are unemployment insurance benefits taxable?

A. Yes, unemployment insurance benefits are taxable. Payment information is reported to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Q. Are unemployment benefits provided by the CARES Act taxable as income?

A. Yes. They are treated as taxable income by the IRS and Idaho. Please visit the Idaho Tax Commission website at tax.idaho.gov/n-feed.cfm?idd=4380 for more information.

Q. How do I request a 1099-G if I lost it?

A. If your identity has been verified on the claimant portal profile section, you can access your 1099-G online. You can download your 2020 payment information from labor.idaho.gov/claimantportal. Select “HISTORY” in the dark blue ribbon on the left side of the screen and then select “Details” in the 1099-G reporting tile.

Q. Can I change my tax withholdings on my unemployment insurance payments?

A. Yes. You may choose to have 10 percent withheld for federal taxes. **We are unable to withhold state taxes.** Log in to labor.idaho.gov/claimantportal to change your tax withholding. Select “ACCOUNT” and change tax withholdings.

Q. What if I disagree with the amount listed on my 1099-G?

A. Keep in mind that benefits are reported based on the date the payment clears the bank, not the week ending date(s) that was paid. Before contacting us, verify your payments by logging in to labor.idaho.gov/claimantportal. Click on “MANAGE CLAIMS” and view “Certifications and Payments.” If you still disagree with your 1099-G after reviewing your payment summary, or you did not apply for unemployment insurance benefits, call us at (208) 332-8942.

Q. What if I re-paid an overpayment in 2020?

A. A 1099-G was mailed to you and will include any repayments received in 2020, *excluding* penalties and interest. Penalties and interest are not included because they were not PAID benefits.

Q. How do I request a Form 1099-G for prior years?

A. You can view 1099-Gs for the past two years online at labor.idaho.gov/claimantportal.

Q. What if I did not receive a W-2 from my employer? Can you give me that information?

A. We are not allowed to provide employer tax identification numbers. Please contact the IRS at (800) 829-1040 for help obtaining your W-2.

Q. What if I have already filed my taxes by the time I received my 1099-G form?

A. We are not authorized to instruct you on how unemployment insurance affects your taxes. Please contact the Idaho State Tax Commission online at tax.idaho.gov/n-feed.cfm?idd=4380 or by phone at (208) 334-7660, (800) 972-7660 or the Internal Revenue Service at (800) 829-1040.

Q. What if I have other questions about my taxes?

A. We are not authorized to instruct you on how unemployment insurance affects your taxes. Please contact the Idaho State Tax Commission at (208) 334-7660, (800) 972-7660 or the Internal Revenue Service at (800) 829-1040.

Q. I thought I paid into unemployment through taxes already. Why am I being taxed again?

A. Employers pay for the unemployment insurance benefits program through quarterly payroll taxes, not employees. Your benefits are considered income and therefore are taxable.

Q. I have an outstanding overpayment with the department for unemployment insurance benefits that were overpaid. Will they seize my refund?

A. Yes. If you have an overpayment balance, your state and federal tax refunds will be subject to seizure and will be applied to your overpayment. Please contact our collections bureau at (208) 332-3573 if you have a current overpayment.