



Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 32.105

☐ Policy ☒ Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
MassHire Workforce Board Chairs
MassHire Workforce Board Directors
MassHire Career Center Directors
MassHire Fiscal Officers
MDCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Alice Sweeney, Director
MassHire Department of Career Services

Date: May 28, 2020

Subject: **Nationwide Unemployment Scam Targeting Massachusetts Claimants**

Purpose: To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators, and other local workforce development partners of a Nationwide Unemployment Scam Targeting Massachusetts Claimants.

Background: Criminal enterprises is in possession of stolen personal information from earlier national data breaches and have been attempting to file large amounts of illegitimate unemployment claims through the Massachusetts Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) system. This is part of a national unemployment fraud scheme.

The Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) has begun implementing additional identity verification measures that will temporarily delay the payment timeframe for many unemployment claims in Massachusetts. As a result of these measures, certain unemployment claimants may be asked to provide additional identity information in order to verify the validity of their claim.

An equal opportunity employer/program.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

TDD/TTY 1-800-439-2370 - Voice 1-800-439-0183

Additional updates related to this criminal activity will be posted at mass.gov/unemployment as soon as they are available.

Action

Requested: Individuals who believe they may have had a false unemployment claim filed using their identity are urged to utilize the Department of Unemployment Assistance fraud contact form at www.mass.gov/unemployment-fraud or to call the DUA customer service department at 877-626-6800.

Effective: Immediately.

Attachment: Press Release – UI Fraud