

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 2016, 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) and you are required to file a tax return for payments received or repaid.

Q. I collected or repaid unemployment insurance benefits in 2016 and have not received my 1099-G tax form yet. Where is it?

A. The 1099-G was mailed in late January 2017 to the address you have listed on your unemployment insurance contact information. The post office will return a Form 1099-G as undeliverable if you moved and did not update your address. It is your responsibility to make sure the Idaho Department of Labor has the most recent and correct address. If your address has changed, log in to labor.idaho.gov/claimantportal and update it, even if you are no longer filing. IMPORTANT: YOUR 1099-G WILL INCLUDE YOUR ENTIRE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, AS REQUIRED BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE. FAILURE TO UPDATE YOUR MAILING ADDRESS COULD RESULT IN YOUR 1099-G GOING TO THE WRONG ADDRESS AND PUT YOUR IDENTITY AT RISK.

Q. How do I request a 1099-G if I never received one?

A. You can access your 1099-G online. You can download your 2016 payment information from labor.idaho.gov/claimantportal and select “Manage Your Claims” in the right-hand column under 1099-G reporting click on the details hyperlink.

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. Log in to labor.idaho.gov/claimantportal to change your tax withholding. Select “Manage Claims” 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 issue date of the payment, 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, call us at (208) 332-8942.

Q. What if I re-paid an overpayment in 2016?

A. A 1099-G was mailed to you and will include any repayments received in 2016, **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 prior to 2016 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 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. The unemployment insurance benefits program is funded by the employer through quarterly payroll taxes. Your benefits are considered income and therefore are taxable.