# Reemployment Assistance Fraud

**Reemployment Assistance Process Guide** 







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## What is Reemployment Assistance (RA) Fraud?

A claimant who gives false statements to or hides relevant information from the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) in order to obtain benefits may be charged with a third-degree felony.

### **Examples of RA Fraud**

- Making false statements that may alter or increase benefits
- Withholding information that may alter or increase benefits
- Failing to report work in order to obtain or increase benefits

#### **Possible Penalties**

- Required to repay the overpayment plus a 15% penalty
- Disqualified from receiving future benefits for up to a year
- May be prosecuted for a charge of grand theft or a misdemeanor, which could result in jail time

### **How to Avoid Committing RA Fraud**

- Accurately report the reason you are unemployed
- Actively search for work
- Report any wages you have earned even if you have not actually been paid for the work
- Report when you are not able or available to seek or accept work
- Report all job refusals

Don't risk losing your benefits because you do not know your rights and responsibilities. If you have questions, contact the DEO.

Go to <a href="https://floridajobs.org/Reemployment-Assistance-Service-">https://floridajobs.org/Reemployment-Assistance-Service-</a> <u>Center/reemployment-assistance/claimants/fraud-and-identity-theft</u> for more information.

#### **Report Fraud**

- Go to https://mobile.connect.myflorida.com/prweb/PRAuth/ContactUs
- Choose Report ID THEFT/FRAUD
- Complete the form

### **Need More Help?**

**Public Library:** Libraries can help with many things, including letting you use a computer, printer, copier, scanner, or fax machine. Some libraries also have staff available who may be able to help guide you through the application process.

Find your local library at <a href="https://myfloridalibrary.com/find/">https://myfloridalibrary.com/find/</a>.

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO): You can contact DEO (<a href="https://floridajobs.org">https://floridajobs.org</a>) online or by phone:

#### **Online Contact Form**

To contact DEO through their online contact form:

- Go to their website at https://www.floridajobs.org
- Choose Reemployment Assistance Resources
- Choose ? Reemployment Assistance Help Center
- Choose I am CLAIMANT
- Complete the form based on your question

#### Call DEO

You can call the Reemployment Assistance Customer Service Center at 833-352-7759 or 850-245-7105.

DEO offers special assistance to people who do not speak English as their primary language and those who have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English. They also provide special assistance to people who need help filing a claim online because of legal reasons, computer illiteracy, language barriers, or disabilities.

We hope that you found this information helpful. Visit our YouTube channel at <a href="https://tinyurl.com/2naxd95v">https://tinyurl.com/2naxd95v</a> for more videos on applying for reemployment
assistance benefits in Florida.