

# DEPARTMENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE UI POLICY & PERFORMANCE INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Date: January 24, 2022** 

Rescission(s): None

Reference No.: UIPP 2022.01

**TO:** All DUA Managers and Staff

**FROM:** Emmy Patronick, Director of Policy and Performance

**SUBJECT:** Form 1099-G Certain Government Payments

(Annual Tax Reporting Document to claimants)

#### 1. PURPOSE:

To provide guidance to DUA staff regarding the annual issuance of tax related information pertaining to the amount of unemployment insurance compensation received for the previous year.

#### 2. ATTACHMENTS:

None

#### 3. <u>BACKGROUND:</u>

In January of each year the Department of Unemployment Assistance is required to provide claimants with tax related information pertaining to the amount of unemployment compensation received for the previous year. The amount of benefits received is provided to claimants on a Form 1099-G – Certain Government Payments. Form 1099-Gs will be mailed to UI recipients' mailing address by January 31, 2022, regardless of which benefit program (i.e., Regular UI, PUA, PEUC, etc.) they received funds from during the 2021 tax year. This memorandum describes how a claimant can receive their Form 1099-G if they did not receive it, if they feel they received a Form 1099-G in error or if they believe the amount may be incorrect.

The DUA has an automated **1099-G Assistance Line at (617) 626-5647** that *all* claimants can access to receive information and assistance, regardless which UI program they received funds from.

Starting today, the following message can be heard by callers on the 1099-G Assistance Line:

"You have reached the Department of Unemployment Assistance automated tax form, 1099-G Assistance line. Year-end Form 1099-Gs will be mailed by January 31 in compliance with Federal requirements. Form 1099-Gs for the 6 prior years are available online at any time. If you have not received this tax year's Form 1099-G by February 7<sup>th</sup> you can obtain a copy via UI Online at <a href="www.mass.gov/dua">www.mass.gov/dua</a>. If you received PUA benefits *or* you do not have access to UI Online, please listen to the following options to request a copy:"

- For a brief explanation of the Form 1099-G, press 1.
- To request a copy of your Form 1099-G, press 2.
- If you received a Form 1099-G and <u>did not</u> receive unemployment benefits from UI Online or PUA during the past year, please go to <u>www.mass.gov/dua</u> and complete the fraud reporting form for a designated team to review.
- If you <u>did</u> receive unemployment benefits, but you believe the amount may be incorrect on your Form 1099-G, please call 617-626-6800 during business hours to speak with a representative.
- To hear these choices again, press \*

#### 4. <u>ACTION:</u>

UITCC and TTEC staff are to inform <u>all</u> claimants that the Form 1099-G will be mailed by January 31, 2022. The Form 1099-G will be available in the UI Online system by January 31, 2022.

- UITCC staff should encourage claimants who have a claim in UI Online to utilize the UI Online system to obtain copies of the Form 1099-G, which will be available in PDF format for them to save to their computer or print.
- TTEC staff should provide the automated 1099-G Assistance Line at 617-626-5647 for PUA claimants to obtain a copy of the Form 1099-G.
- Staff can assist any claimant receiving PUA or benefits in UI Online who does not have access to UI Online and is requesting a copy of the Form 1099-G.

• If any claimant, receiving PUA or benefits in UI Online, needs the address changed on their Form 1099-G, UITCC staff should instruct the claimant to make an appointment with the Reemployment Center in Boston for assistance via mass.gov/REC appointment.

If a claimant received a Form 1099-G for 2021 and is stating they did not receive UI or PUA benefits during the past year, the claimant should be instructed to go online to <a href="www.mass.gov/dua">www.mass.gov/dua</a> and fill out the fraud reporting form. Once completed, the claim will be reviewed by the 1099-G triage group.

## Claimants who received benefits in UI Online only and, Claimants who received PUA benefits and benefits in UI Online:

#### **UITCC**

Any questions a claimant has regarding the amount of benefits printed on the Form 1099-G should first be reviewed by the UITCC Claims Agent. If, after review, the Claims Agent cannot reconcile the amount, the name, Claimant ID, and a brief description of the discrepancy should be sent to a Manager for review. If the Manager is unable to reconcile the amount of benefits printed on the Form 1099-G, the claim will be sent to the 1099-G triage group.

#### **TTEC**

If a claimant has any questions regarding the amount of benefits printed on the Form 1099-G, and the TTEC agent and their manager are unable to reconcile the amount of benefits printed on the Form 1099-G, the claim will be sent to the 1099-G triage group via the escalation spreadsheet.

### Claimants who received only PUA benefits:

#### **UITCC**

If a PUA claimant has any questions regarding the amount of benefits printed on the Form 1099-G, the Claims Agent should send the name, Claimant ID, and a brief description of the discrepancy to a Manager, who will send it to the 1099-G triage group.

#### **TTEC**

If a PUA claimant has any questions regarding the amount of benefits printed on the Form 1099-G, and the TTEC agent and their manager are unable to reconcile the amount of benefits printed on the Form 1099-G, the claim will be sent to the 1099-G triage group via the escalation spreadsheet.