

ACCELLION DATA BREACH

Affecting 2020 Unemployment Claimants and Many Washington State Employees

WHAT HAPPENED?

The Washington State Auditor's Office (SAO) announced that criminals breached the computer systems of their third-party vendor, Accellion.

This vendor was storing data the SAO required the Employment Security Department (ESD) to provide in 2020.

IS MY DATA SAFE?

If you fit any of the criteria in "What Data Was Stolen" below, your data may be compromised.

In accordance with state law, the SAO is notifying individuals whose information has been stolen.

The SAO will be setting up a call center soon.

Get the latest details here: sao.wa.gov/breach2021

WHAT DATA WAS STOLEN?

- Personal information of people who filed for unemployment claims from 1/1/20 to 12/10/20. This includes many state employees and people whose identities were used to file for claims fraudulently.
- Personal information of a smaller number of people, including data held by the Department of Children, Youth and Families
- Non-personal financial and other data from local governments and state agencies

STEPS TO TAKE

If your information may have been compromised...

1. Place a fraud alert and/or security freeze on your credit reports.

Find details at atg.wa.gov/credit-freeze-fraud-alerts

2. Monitor your financial account statements, billing statements and credit reports for suspicious activity.

You can get a free credit report once every 12 months by visiting www.annualcreditreport.com.

If you are the victim of identity theft or fraud...

1. Call the companies where your fraud or identity theft occurred.

2. Place a fraud alert and/or security freeze on your credit reports.

3. Report identity theft to the FTC at IdentityTheft.gov.

4. Send a copy of the police report to credit agencies

5. Ask businesses to provide you with information about transactions made in your name.

Find instructions here:

atg.wa.gov/recovering-identity-theft-or-fraud

WILL THIS IMPACT UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS?

ESD's systems have not been hacked or breached, but it's still unclear whether the breach will impact benefits payments. Claimants should continue to submit weekly claims as usual and keep an eye out for more communications from ESD.