

NEWS RELEASE

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IWD Warns Against Websites that Charge Fees for Filing Unemployment Claims

Des Moines – Iowa Workforce Development is warning Iowans to beware of web sites that charge fees to file unemployment claims or promise guaranteed approval.

“These web sites prey on those most vulnerable who are simply looking for help,” said Elisabeth Buck, Director of Iowa Workforce Development. “We want every Iowan to know that filing for unemployment is a free service provided by Iowa Workforce Development.”

Buck also warns that though these websites may look official, they are in no way authorized or endorsed by the State of Iowa. While these sites may promise prompt response or guaranteed approval, in many cases they may jeopardize or delay weekly benefits, and could expose Iowans to identity theft.

“You will not be automatically approved for unemployment no matter how much you pay,” added Buck. “The procedures are in place to ensure a fair and equal system for both employers and individuals. We try to process all claims in a timely manner, but there is no automatic way to be approved.”

To file for unemployment, visit www.iowaworkforce.org. This site provides information about unemployment insurance, free online application and much more.

If you have been using one of these sites, cancel your subscription immediately and report the information to the Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Division office at (515) 281-5926.

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