

Show Me the Money Guide 2014

HOW TO LOCATE UNCLAIMED FUNDS

Why is this important for me?

There are literally millions and millions of unclaimed dollars in earnings which are just sitting hidden in "Unable To Locate" lists. The odds are extremely high that either a) your name appears on one or more of those lists in some form or other, indicating that you have money owed to you which is being held by them, or b) you KNOW people whose names appear on one or more of those lists, which indicates that THEY have money owed to them which is being held there.

Why can't they just locate everyone and get us our money?

This is the classic \$64,000 Question! There are a variety of fascinating reasons, including: a) you changed mailing addresses at some point and didn't notify everyone of the change; b) the payroll or production company mistakenly put you down on the wrong contract, so that your money was then sent to the wrong union, which doesn't HAVE your contact information; c) the payroll or production company misspelled either your first and/or last names; d) the payroll or production company wrote your name correctly, but included an incorrect Social Security number with it; e) the payroll or production company reversed your first and last names, so that, for instance, you're listed as "Doe Jane" instead of "Jane Doe"; f) the payroll or production company used your original birth name instead of your professional name; g) the payroll or production company used your maiden name (for women) or your spouse's last name, which you don't go by (for men OR women), rather than your correct professional name; h) if you ever went through either a legal name change or a divorce, the payroll or production company made your check out to the wrong, outdated name because of that; i) the payroll or production company wrote the check to an old publishing company of yours or to an old corporation of yours; j) the payroll or production company combined your name and someone else's name randomly into a nonexistent person, to whom they made out a check; or k) a total unexplainable screw-up was made, either by the payroll or production company OR the union residuals department who was supposed to mail the check on to you.

For SAG-AFTRA Unable To Locate (UTL) List:

1) Go to www.sagaftra.org; 2) When the home page opens up, click on the link "**Unclaimed Residuals**", the one which is over on the left side of the page, under the title "**Quick Links**"; 3) Once it opens to the "**Unclaimed Residuals and Unable to Locate Funds**" page, read the directions. Click on the link "**Click here for Unclaimed Residuals/Funds – SAG Productions**", the gold-colored one. Once the "**Search Unclaimed Residuals**" page opens up, you can browse SAG-AFTRA's list of people to whom they owe residuals, just by going down to the bottom of the page, then entering a last name into the "**Last Name**" box, then clicking on the "**SEARCH**" button. If you want to see what OTHER people's names might be on the list, just enter the first 2-3 letters of any last name in the "**Last Name**" box; 4) If you find yourself (or anyone you know) listed, then go back up the page to the "**How To Contact Us**" link, then click on the appropriate category for you (**performer, beneficiary, etc.**). Just follow the printed instructions, and eventually, hopefully, you should receive your money!

For SAG-AFTRA Foreign Royalties List:

1) Go to www.sagaftra.org; 2) Click on the link "**Foreign Royalties**", the one which is over on the left side of the home page, under the title "**Quick Links**"; 3) Once you get to the "**Foreign Royalties**" page, read the directions. Then go to the bottom of the page, enter a last name into the "**Last Name**" box, then click on the "**SEARCH**" button. If you find your name listed (or others' names), go back up the page to read about how to go about claiming your money!

For AFTRA Unable To Locate (UTL) List:

They've currently shut down our online access to this list, because of the merger of SAG and AFTRA into one union, so you have to PHONE them (how archaic!) in order to check on whether or not they're holding funds for you or others, at (323) 634-8255.

For AFM Sound Recordings Special Payments Fund Unclaimed Monies:

Go to www.sound-recording.org/unclaimed.phtml; 2) A page will open up called "**Money Owed Musicians**"; 3) Scroll down through the columns of names listed for each year (**Distribution Year 2011, Distribution Year**

2012, and **Distribution Year 2013**). If you find your name listed (or the name of someone you know), go back to the top of the page and click on the link "**contact the Fund**", and it will display a mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address where you can contact them in order to get your (or their) money.

For AFM Local 802 New York Unclaimed Monies:

1) Go to www.local802afm.org; 2) On the bottom of the homepage, click on the "**Benefits & Services**" link; 3) Once the page opens up with the heading "**Associated Musicians of Greater New York**", point on the phrase "**Member Resources**", and then click on the link "**Unclaimed Checks**" in the pull-down menu; 4) Click on the first letter of your last name, to check whether or not your name is listed (you can look for funds for your friends in the same way, of course!); 5) If you find your name (or others you recognize), just follow the written directions listed at the bottom of the names list in order to claim your money.

For Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund Unclaimed Checks:

1) Go to www.fmsmf.org; 2) In the middle of the homepage, click on the "**CLICK HERE FOR UNCLAIMED CHECKS**" link, the one with the music note in the middle of the box; 3) On the "**Musician Resources**" **Unclaimed Checks** page, click near the bottom of the page, on the **complete** list of names, on the appropriate green "**click here**" link; 4) Also, you can go back and check on the list of names in the "**Live TV/Videotape Supplementary Markets Fund**", just by clicking on the "**click here**" link in the middle of the page, which is in green; 5) If you find your own name or that of someone you know on either of these lists, look for the phrase "**All unclaimed checks inquiries & related correspondence should be <sent via e-mail by clicking here>**", and click on the link inside the < > marks.

For AFM & SAG-AFTRA Intellectual Property Rights Distribution Fund Monies (NOTE: This website has SUBSTANTIALLY changed in the last year!):

1) Go to www.raroyalties.org; 2) On the homepage there are three main heading areas; a) **SR (Sound Recordings)**; b) **AV (Audiovisual)**; and c) **SYM (Symphonic)**; 3) To go to any of those three areas, simply click on the heading of the particular area you want, and that area will open up; 4) Once a particular area page opens up, you can read about the details of what monies they collect; 5) Make sure to click on the phrase "**Covered Recordings**", one of the colored headings up near the top of the page, to see exactly what recordings they are currently paying on. By clicking on the title of any given recording itself, you can see who is listed in their files as having recorded on that particular project. If you find recordings in their list on which you recorded, but for which your name is not listed in the personnel area, make your own list of these, then click on the phrase "**please send feedback to our contact link**", located up at the top right of the page, and you will find instructions for how to contact the fund and get credit for the projects upon which you worked; 6) Then be sure to go back and click on the phrase "**Unclaimed Royalties**", another of the colored headings up near the top of the page, to see whether or not your name (or the names of people you know) might be listed here, indicating that the fund is currently holding money for that person, but has been unable to locate them; if you discover names you know on this list, click on the phrase "**online form**", located at the top right of the page, and by following the instructions, you can register yourself (or help your friends) to receive money.

For payment for albums you recorded for British artists, or albums which got airplay in the U.K.:

1) Go to www.ppluk.com; 2) Follow the online instructions; 3) You'll need to register yourself in order to receive performance royalties.

If you are (or ever WERE) a royalty artist (meaning you released albums where you were the featured artist or band):

You need to register all of your information online, so you can be paid performance royalties. 1) Go to www.soundexchange.com; 2) Click on the

phrase "**Artists & Copyright Holders**" (in green); 3) Once that page opens up, please click on the phrase "**Does Sound Exchange Have Royalties for You?**" (in green); 4) Once that page opens up, click on the phrase "**For Artists**" (in green); 5) The site will then list instructions for a) how to look for royalties for you, and b) how to register with Sound Exchange.

If you are (or ever WERE) a music publisher (meaning you own, or have owned, your own ASCAP, BMI, or SESAC-affiliated music publishing company):

You may need to update your publisher contact info with the Harry Fox Agency, and you may be owed substantial money in back mechanical licensing fees, etc.

1) Go to www.harryfox.com; 2) Once the homepage opens, click on the word "**Publishers**" (up at the top left-hand corner of the page); 3) Once that page opens up, click on the phrase "**Help Us Find Publishers**" (in light blue, all the way down at the bottom of the page on the right); 4) Once the "**HFA is Looking for These Publishers**" page opens up, click on the "**View List**" blue button near the bottom of the page; 5) Once the "**Unidentified Publishers**" page opens up, you can scroll down through the list of ALL publishers, or you can just click on the first letter or number of the name of a particular publishing company, if you are searching for a certain publishing company name; 6) If you are the owner of a publishing company listed here, contact Harry Fox Agency by clicking on the "**Contact Us**" button up at the top right-hand side of the page and e-mailing or phoning HFA.

If you are (or ever WERE) a young performer (under the age of 18) affiliated with either AFTRA or SAG, or you know of children who may fit this description:

You might find unclaimed Coogan earnings. 1) Go to www.unclaimedcoogan.org; 2) When the "**Unclaimed Coogan Funds**" page opens up, on the right side of the page, under the heading "**How Can This Website Help You?**", click on the word "**Check**"; 3) When the "**Applicants**" page opens up, enter the first few letters of the first or last name your searching for into the search box, and then click on the "**search**" button; 4) If you find your name listed, or the names of performers you know, click on the

“**beneficiary application**” button, print out the forms, and then follow the instructions for how to go about claiming money.

How about just finding some unclaimed money meant for you? Try going to the California Unclaimed Money Fund!

1) Go to www.sco.ca.gov/upd.html (the California State Controller’s Office), and see if they’re holding funds for you, or someone you know; 2) When the page opens up, click on the phrase “**Start Your Search**”, which is over on the left side of the page in the “**ONLINE CLAIMS SERVICES**” section; 3) When the “**Unclaimed Property Search**” page opens up, enter your name (or that of the person for whom you’re looking) in the “**INDIVIDUAL OWNER SEARCH**” box, then click on the “search” button just below it; 4) If you find your name listed (or that of someone you know), just follow the instructions on the page for how to go about collecting your money!

Try going to the New York unclaimed money fund!

1) Go to www.osc.state.ny.us/ouf/index.htm (The New York Office of the State Controller), and see if they’re holding funds for you, or someone you know; 2) When the homepage opens up, click on the phrase “**Search Now**”, which is in the middle of the page, right next to the giant magnifying glass with the big dollar sign in the lens; 3) When the “**Search for Lost Money**” page opens up, enter your name in the “**Search for Individual**” box, then click on the “Search” button; 4) If your name comes up in the “Search Results”, follow the printed directions near the top of the page for how to claim those monies.

For fun, if you’ve lived or worked in other states, you can also check out www.unclaimed.org (to find money in ANY of the 50 states!), or www.missingmoney.com. Enjoy!