

Are You Entitled To Unclaimed Funds?

JAMES L. SEWARD

You may be entitled to some of the over \$8 billion in unclaimed funds in New York State. A simple internet search is all it takes to see if you are eligible. To see if you have any unclaimed funds, go to http://www.osc.state.ny.us/ouf/index.htm.

Why does New York State have unclaimed funds?

Banks, insurance companies, utilities, investment companies and many other businesses are required by state law to turn over inactive accounts to the state. The Office of the State Comptroller then serves as the custodian of this money until it is claimed.

What are some types of unclaimed funds?

Unclaimed funds are money or the rights to money that have been dormant or forgotten. Some common examples include: savings accounts, checking accounts, uncashed checks, telephone/utility deposits, rental security deposits, wages, insurance benefits/policies, safe deposit box contents, mortgage insurance refunds, stocks and dividends, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, trust funds, and estate proceed.

How can I search to see if I am entitled to unclaimed funds?

To see if there are unclaimed funds in your name, visit the New York State Comptroller's website and conduct a search by going to http://www.osc.state.ny.us/ouf/index.htm. There is no charge to search or file a claim to recover unclaimed funds.

Where can I get more information about filing a claim for unclaimed funds? Go to http://www.osc.state.ny.us/ouf/reqdoc.htm for more information from the New York State Comptroller's website.

If you have any questions or need assistance, you may contact the Office of the State Comptroller at 1-800-221-9311 or via email by NYSOUF@osc.state.ny.us.