

SCAM ALERT

Watch out! Scammers target everyone.



Recognize scammers. They may:

- **PRETEND** to be from an agency or organization you know.
- Say there's a **PROBLEM** or promise a prize.
- **PRESSURE** you to act immediately.
- Tell you to **PAY** in a specific way.



Do not give scammers money or personal information – Ignore them!

How to avoid a scam:

- **Remain calm.** Talk to someone you trust.
- **Hang up or ignore** the message. **DO NOT** click on links or attachments.
- **Protect your money.** Criminals will insist that you pay in a hard-to-trace manner, such as with a gift card, prepaid debit card, cryptocurrency, wire transfer, money transfer, or by mailing cash.
- **Protect your personal information.** Be skeptical of a contact you didn't initiate.
- **Spread the word.** Share your knowledge of Social Security-related scams. Post on social media using the hashtag #SlamtheScam to share your experience and warn others. Visit **ssa.gov/scam** for more information. Please also share with your friends and family.



Scammers Impersonate the Government

You get a call, email, or text message...

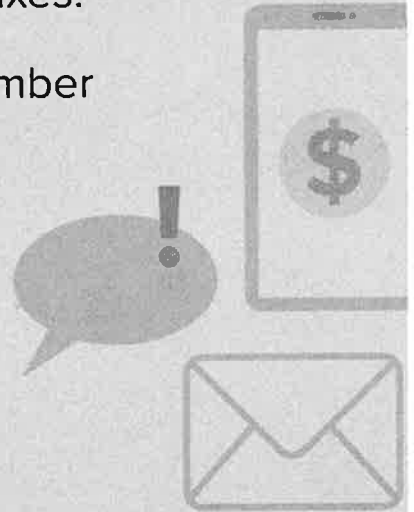
- ▶ They say they're from the Social Security Administration and your benefits will end unless you pay.
- ▶ They say they're from the IRS and you owe taxes.
- ▶ They say you need to give your Medicare number to get a new card.



STOP!

These are all scams.

Government agencies won't call, email, or text you and ask for money or personal information. Only a scammer will do that.



Report the scam to the FTC at
[ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/report-fraud)



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