

## Scammers take advantage of fears about the coronavirus. Here are some tips to keep you safe from scammers.

- **COVID-19 phone scams**. Do not provide personal information like social security numbers to any callers, even if they say they are a government official or a COVID-19 hotline with test results.
- Hang up on robocalls. Don't press any numbers. Scammers are using illegal robocalls to pitch everything from scam Coronavirus treatments to work-at-home schemes. The recording might say that pressing a number will let you speak to a live operator or remove you from their call list, but it might lead to more robocalls, instead.
- Fact-check information. Scammers, and sometimes well-meaning people, share
  information that hasn't been verified. Before you pass on any messages, contact
  trusted sources. Visit <a href="https://www.usa.gov/coronavirus">https://www.usa.gov/coronavirus</a> for links to federal, state and
  local government agencies.
- **Know who you're buying** from. Online sellers may claim to have in-demand products, like cleaning, household, and health and medical supplies when, in fact, they don't.
- Don't respond to texts and emails about checks from the government. The details are still being worked out. Anyone who tells you they can get you the money now is a scammer.
- Watch for emails claiming to be from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or Medicare or experts saying they have information about the virus or offer you a test or masks in exchange for your Medicare number or payment. This is how scams operate. For the most up-to-date information about the Coronavirus, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO).
- **Ignore online offers for vaccinations**. There currently are no vaccines, pills, potions, lotions, lozenges or other prescription or over-the-counter products available to treat or cure Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) online or in stores.
- Do your homework when it comes to donations, whether a charity or crowdfunding sites. **Don't let anyone rush you into making a donation**.

