

Grandparent Scam

This scam generally targets adults over the age of 65.

The scammer calls and poses as a distressed grandchild or a law enforcement agent. The grandparent is told that the grandchild is in trouble in another state or country. There is a demand for a large amount of money to pay for a lawyer or to post bail. The grandparent is told the grandchild doesn't want anyone to know about this or is threatened that the grandchild won't be released if they tell anyone about the situation. The scammer asks for money to be sent through wire transfer or gift cards. If you get a call like this, hang up and try to contact your grandchild or another family member to find out if the person who called for help is the person they claim to be. If you fall victim to this scam, contact your bank or the wire transfer company immediately and report the call to your local police department, the FTC, and the Division of Consumer Affairs.

[Federal Trade Commission](#)

You can also report scams to the Better Business Bureau's [Scam Tracker](#) and check what scams are being reported in your area, the state, and across the country.