

IRS Scam

IRS scams occur regularly, but increase in frequency around tax season.

The scammer typically calls or emails claiming that taxes are owed and demand immediate payment. They may threaten to sue or have you arrested if immediate payment is not received. If the scammer asks for payment in the form of a gift card, prepaid debit card, or credit card over the phone, hang up. The IRS will always initiate contact through U.S. postal mail. If you receive a phone call from someone claiming to be the IRS, ask for a name, badge number, and callback number. Call 1-800-366-4484 to verify the information. If you are contacted by email, don't reply, don't open any attachments, and don't click any links. Forward the email to phishing@irs.gov and delete the original. If you are contacted by an IRS scammer, report the call to 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.