

Avoiding Coronavirus Scams

Scammers are taking advantage of fears surrounding the coronavirus. Protect yourself by staying informed. Below are some tips to help you identify and avoid scams.



- ❖ **Don't click on links from sources you don't know.** They could download viruses onto your computer or device.
- ❖ **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 immediately is a scammer.
- ❖ **Watch for emails claiming to be from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or experts saying they have information about the virus.** For the most up-to-date information about the Coronavirus, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at <https://www.cdc.gov> and the World Health Organization (WHO) at <https://www.who.int>.
- ❖ **Ignore online offers for vaccinations and home test kits.** 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. At this time, there also are no FDA-authorized home test kits for the Coronavirus. Visit the www.FDA.gov to learn more.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **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 the <https://www.usa.gov/coronavirus> for links to federal, state and local government agencies.
- ❖ **Do your homework when it comes to donations, whether through charities or crowdfunding sites.** Don't let anyone rush you into making a donation. If someone wants donations in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money, don't do it.

If you have any questions please call our Customer First Contact Center at (203) 462-4400
(Mon – Fri 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

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