We've recently heard from several students who were contacted by scammers posing as the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or ICE Officers. We wanted to remind the entire international community to be vigilant in protecting your identity and finances. **DHS will never use the internet or telephone to contact students and scholars to ask for money or identity information.**

Below is an expert from The ICE Office of Professional Responsibility. [1]

**How does the FRAUD happen:**

- The imposter will identify themselves as a federal law enforcement officer, employee or contractor of ICE or the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
- The imposter will demand money or merchandise from you claiming to be able to help you get an immigration benefit, legal status, or documents.
- The promised benefit or service is never received.

**Legitimate ICE Officers will never:**

- Offer lawful immigration status or other immigration services in exchange for money or merchandise
- Use the internet or telephone to contact a member of the public to offer immigration services in exchange for payment through pre-paid cash cards like GreenDot or services like Western Union and MoneyGram
- Use a third-party person to solicit and collect a fee from a member of the public in exchange for immigration services
- Ask you or any member of the public for payment of any kind
If you receive a scam phone call, [be sure to report it online][2].

Source URL: [https://oiss.yale.edu/news/beware-of-recent-immigration-scams](https://oiss.yale.edu/news/beware-of-recent-immigration-scams)

Links:
2. [https://www.dhs.gov/blog/2020/01/02/avoid-scams](https://www.dhs.gov/blog/2020/01/02/avoid-scams)