

## Reminder: Beware of Scam Phone Calls & Emails

Published on Office of International Students & Scholars (<https://oiss.yale.edu>)

---

## Reminder: Beware of Scam Phone Calls & Emails

November 28, 2023



Scam phone calls and emails happen year-round, but it's important to be vigilant during the holiday season. A common scam that's circulating heavily is a mail delivery service texting you to say that your package cannot be delivered and asking you to click on a link to give them additional information. Please keep track of your packages and do not respond to phone numbers that you do not recognize! **Remember that you should never give money to someone you do not know or before you have verified their identity.**

DHS (Department of Homeland Security) or the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) will never use the internet or telephone to contact students and scholars to ask for money or identity information. It is important to note that you should not always trust the caller ID; **phone numbers can be manipulated to appear as a legitimate government agency, Yale offices, or even the police.** If you are ever in doubt, hang up and check-in with [our office](#) [1] or [Yale Police](#) [2] about the call. [Read the latest article by Yale Information Security about how to avoid scams.](#) [3]

[Below is an excerpt from The ICE Office of Professional Responsibility.](#) [4]

### 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.

## Reminder: Beware of Scam Phone Calls & Emails

Published on Office of International Students & Scholars (<https://oiss.yale.edu>)

---

- 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

For more information on common scams, please read our [website](#) [5]. If you receive a scam phone call, [be sure to report it online right away](#) [6].

---

**Source URL:** <https://oiss.yale.edu/news/reminder-beware-of-scam-phone-calls-emails>

### Links

[1] <https://oiss.yale.edu/about/connect-with-oiss> [2] <https://your.yale.edu/community/public-safety/yale-police-department> [3] <https://cybersecurity.yale.edu/newsletter/spring2023/bee-aware> [4] <https://www.ice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Document/2019/bewareICEimposters.pdf> [5] <https://oiss.yale.edu/campus-community-life/for-students/safety-resources/scams-fraud> [6] <https://www.dhs.gov/blog/2020/01/02/avoid-scams>