

# SCAM ALERT

The Social Security Administration will never threaten, scare, or pressure you to take an immediate action.



**Scammers continue to impersonate government employees in an attempt to obtain your personal information or money. They may:**

- **PRETEND** to be from an agency or organization you know.
- Say there's a **PROBLEM** or promise a prize.
- **PRESSURE** you to act immediately.
- Tell you to **PAY** in a specific way.



**Do not give scammers money or personal information – Ignore them!**

## **How to avoid a scam:**

- **Remain calm.** Talk to someone you trust.
- **Hang up or ignore** the message. **DO NOT** click on links or attachments.
- **Protect your money.** Criminals will insist that you pay in a hard-to-trace manner, such as with a gift card, prepaid debit card, cryptocurrency, wire transfer, money transfer, or by mailing cash.
- **Protect your personal information.** Be skeptical of a contact you didn't initiate.
- **Spread the word.** Share your knowledge of Social Security-related scams. Post on social media using the hashtag #SlamtheScam to share your experience and warn others. Visit [ssa.gov/scam](https://ssa.gov/scam) for more information. Please also share with your friends and family.