

Keeping Iowans Finances Safe from Scammers



As part of the federal response to the COVID-19 crisis, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has been distributing economic impact payments. Iowans are already receiving their payments by direct deposit or by mail from the federal government. Unfortunately, even during a global health crisis, scammers have no shame and will try to take advantage of the public. I'm warning Iowans to be on the lookout for scams to protect themselves and their money. Here are some tips from the Federal Trade Commission to help protect your payment:

1. Only use the [IRS website](#) to submit information.
2. The IRS will not contact you to collect your personal or banking information. Ignore and delete those calls, text or emails from any individual posing as the IRS.
3. There are no fees and you don't have to pay to get your stimulus money.
4. The IRS will not request you to send money back in the form of gift cards or money transfers.

Many individuals and families are under financial strain. Be sure to pay attention to your bank accounts, credit card statements and monitor your credit score for irregularities. Iowans can report scams to the Federal Trade Commission at [ftc.gov/complaint](https://www.ftc.gov/complaint) or through the Iowa Attorney General's office at [iowaAttorneyGeneral.gov](https://www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov).

My office is not responsible for issuing these payments. Further questions can be directed to your federal senators or representatives. Share this information with your friends and family to keep those you love safe as well. For more information on economic impact payments, visit [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov).