



# Coronavirus Related Scams

## PROTECT YOURSELF FROM CORONAVIRUS RELATED SCAMS

Due to recent reports of coronavirus cases in the United States, scammers have identified the public's concern as a target for scams and fraud. The Inspection Service wants you to protect yourself from falling victim to scams and fraud by following the tips below.

Be sure to report any incidents of scams or mail fraud to the Inspection Service at [uspis.gov](https://uspis.gov); or by calling the number at the bottom of this flyer.

For updated information and developments, please follow [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](https://www.cdc.gov). You may also get more information about government response from [GSA](https://www.gsa.gov).

### 01 Be aware of charity scams

Only contribute to established organizations.

### 02 Don't click on links in emails

Never click on links in emails from sources you don't know, especially those that claim to be from Centers for Disease Control (CDC) or World Health Organization (WHO).

### 03 There currently is no cure or treatment

Be wary of offers for vaccines, pills, potions, lotions, or other products that claim to cure or treat Coronavirus (COVID-19).

### 04 Don't give out financial information

Don't give your financial information or personal information to anyone you don't know and don't trust.

### 05 Resist pressure tactics

Don't be pressured into making immediate financial decisions.

### 06 Know who you can trust

Consult with a trusted friend or family member before making a payment.

Here are the most recent scams to be aware of:

#### Testing Scams

Fake at-home test kits are being sold or going door to door performing fake tests for money.

#### Supply Scams

Creating fake shops, websites, social media account and e-mail addresses selling all medical/cleaning supplies in high demand when in fact they do not have any of these supplies and just take the victims money.

#### Provider Scams (Similar to the Grandparent Scam)

Individuals posing by email or phone pretending to be a doctor and hospital that treated a friend or relative for Covid-19 and are demanding payment for the treatment.

#### App Scams

Creating mobile apps designed to track the spread of COVID-19 to insert malware on a persons phone that will compromise the device and personal information.

#### Investment Scams

Offering investments into companies claiming that the products or services of the companies can prevent, detect or cure COVID-19 and the stock will dramatically increase.