

[Social Security](#), reminds the public that Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit payments will continue to be paid on time during the COVID-19 pandemic. The agency also reminds everyone to be aware of scammers who try to take advantage of the pandemic to trick people into providing personal information or payment via retail gift cards, wire transfers, internet currency, or by mailing cash, to maintain Social Security benefit payments or receive economic impact payments from the Department of the Treasury.

Fact-check information. Scammers, and sometimes well-meaning people, share information that hasn't been verified. Before you pass on any messages, contact trusted sources. Visit [What the U.S. Government is Doing](#) for links to federal, state and local government agencies. Watch for emails claiming to be from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or experts saying they have information about the virus. For the most up-to-date information about the Coronavirus, visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) and the [World Health Organization](#) (WHO).

Hang up on robocalls. Don't press any numbers. Scammers are using [illegal robocalls](#) to pitch everything from scam Coronavirus treatments to work-at-home schemes. The recording might say that pressing a number will let you speak to a live operator or remove you from their call list, but it might lead to more robocalls, instead.

Ignore online offers for vaccinations and home test kits. Scammers are trying to get you to buy products that aren't proven to treat or prevent the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) — online or in stores. At this time, there also are no FDA-authorized home test kits for the Coronavirus. Visit the [FDA](#) to learn more.

Know who you're buying from. [Online sellers](#) may claim to have in-demand products, like cleaning, household, and health and medical supplies when, in fact, they don't.

[Don't click on links from sources you don't know](#). They could download viruses onto your computer or device.

Be on the lookout for potential scammers using the COVID-19 situation to steal personal information, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) warned Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants today. USDA is issuing this warning after receiving reports of several possible SNAP fraud attempts.

Examples of confidential information include social security number, bank information, or a participant's SNAP EBT card or PIN number. In one potential scam, a website asked SNAP recipients to enter their personal and bank account information to qualify for COVID-related monetary assistance.

If SNAP participants are unsure if a request for information is legitimate, USDA advises they contact their [local SNAP office](#). If they do not know their local SNAP office, participants should contact their state agency.

The Department of Justice is remaining vigilant in detecting, investigating, and prosecuting wrongdoing related to the crisis. If you think you are a victim of a scam or attempted fraud involving COVID-19, you can report it without leaving your home:

Contact the [National Center for Disaster Fraud](#) Hotline at 866-720-5721 or via email at disaster@leo.gov