

## Tips for Avoiding Coronavirus Scams

Here are some tips to help you keep the scammers at bay during the COVID-19 crisis:

- 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. There currently are no vaccines, pills, potions, lotions, lozenges or other prescription or over-the-counter products available to treat or cure Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) online or in stores. At this time, there also are no FDA-authorized home test kits for the Coronavirus.
- Fact-check information. Scammers, and sometimes well-meaning people, share information that hasn't been verified. Before you pass on any messages, consult trusted sources.
- **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 respond to texts and emails about checks from the government. The details are still being
  worked out. Anyone who tells you they can get you the money now is a scammer.
- Don't click on links from sources you don't know. They could download viruses onto your computer or device.
- 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 COVID-19, visit the CDC or the World Health Organization websites.
- Do your homework when it comes to donations, whether through charities or crowdfunding sites. Don't let anyone rush you into making a donation. If someone wants donations in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money, don't do it.

