

TAX SEASON SAFETY TIPS



SCAMMERS

- Avoid sharing tax-related information on social media
- Be cautious about filing or sharing tax information while connected to an open wi-fi network
- Do not open emails or texts from strangers, especially if they urge you to click on links
- Avoid visiting website addresses that do not end in '.gov'. Many fraudulent websites mimic official government sites, so be cautious if the link does not start with "https" (indicating security) or end with '.gov' (the official extension used by government offices)
- Before providing making payments, always verify the identity of anyone claiming to be a government official

IRS WILL NEVER

- Demand payment through specific methods like prepaid debit cards, wire transfers, or cryptocurrency
- Ask taxpayers to make payments to anyone other than the US Treasury
- Threaten immediate arrest by local law enforcement or demand payment without offering an opportunity to question or appeal the amount owed

TAX PREPARATION

- Always verify the credentials of any tax return preparer before working with them
- Do not sign a blank tax return, even if it is being prepared by a family member. You are responsible for the accuracy of the information on your tax return
- Be skeptical of claims made by preparers who promise to save you a significant amount of money on taxes or guarantee a larger refund. If something sounds too good to be true, it likely is

