STAY SAFE HOOSIERS

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM SCAMS
SCAM ALERT

BE PREPARED • BE WARY • BE STRONG
Phone scams

Several IU international students have been victims of phone scammers – they all say,

“It seemed so real!”
Phone scammers are tricky

1. Their phone number looks like a government number.
2. One scammer even made it look like OIS sent an email to the student.
3. They refer to the last time you traveled – and they know what they’re talking about.
4. They say you are in danger of deportation.
Scams are real
OH YEAH. THAT’S A SCAM
Clear warning signs

1. They tell you not to talk to anyone else.
2. They keep you on the phone.
3. They tell you to meet them in a non-office setting.
4. They should not ask you for personal information.
What we know for sure

1. The U.S. government rarely makes phone calls – especially one requiring you to take immediate action.

2. The U.S. government will never ask for payment over the phone. Legitimate requests will be in writing.
WHAT IF I GET A CALL?
Hang up

If you receive a call demanding personal information or payment, hang up immediately.
Do not respond

If you receive a call demanding personal information or payment, do not respond.
Contact OIS

You can **always** contact us – especially when you're not sure if something is real.

We are here to help!

[ois@iu.edu](mailto:ois@iu.edu) | 812-855-9086
Call their bluff

• You can verify if you were contacted by USCIS!
• USCIS is the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
Verify if it was really USCIS

1. Call the National Customer Service Center (1-800-375-5283) to ask if you need to do anything about your case or immigration status.

2. Make an InfoPass appointment.

3. Use myUSCIS to find up-to-date information about your application (if you have one).
Ask questions – get more details

It is your right and duty to ask for more information. Make sure you ask for

- Caller’s full name, agency, reporting office
- Official government telephone number to call the person back

They will probably say you must act immediately…
Don't believe them!
End the call & contact OIS right away.
Stay aware – know what’s happening

- USCIS works to help prevent scams
- Find their list of current scams at uscis.gov/avoid-scams/common-scams
OH NO!
I THINK I WAS SCammed
Take action

- If you receive a suspicious email, forward it to USCIS.Webmaster@uscis.dhs.gov.
- Contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at 877-FTC-Help or file a complaint online.
- Call the IU Police Department (812-855-4111).
- Visit IU’s Student Legal
- Always talk to OIS, so we can help you and prevent others from being scammed.
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