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Don't you owe any taxes. He will not contact you by email, either.

Aug. 18, 2016



The Internal Revenue Service is warning taxpayers about a new scam where students and parents are being targeted during the back-to-school season. The scammers are impersonating tax agents and demanding payments for non-existent taxes, such as the “Federal Student Tax.”

People should be on the lookout for IRS impersonators calling students and demanding that they wire money immediately to pay a fake “federal student tax.” If the person does not comply, the scammer becomes aggressive and threatens to report

the student to the police to be arrested. As schools around the nation prepare to re-

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The IRS encourages college and school communities to share this information so that students, parents and their families are aware of these scams.

Scammers are constantly identifying new tactics to carry out their crimes in new and unsuspecting ways. This year, the IRS has seen scammers use a variety of schemes to fool taxpayers into paying money or giving up personal information. Some of these include:

- Altering the caller ID on incoming phone calls in a “spoofing” attempt to make it seem like the IRS, the local police or another agency is calling
- Imitating software providers to trick tax professionals—[IR-2016-103](#)
- Demanding fake tax payments using iTunes gift cards—[IR-2016-99](#)
- Soliciting W-2 information from payroll and human resources professionals—[IR-2016-34](#)
- “Verifying” tax return information over the phone—[IR-2016-40](#)
- Pretending to be from the tax preparation industry—[IR-2016-28](#)

If you receive an unexpected call from someone claiming to be from the IRS, here are some of the telltale signs to help protect yourself.

The IRS Will Never:

- Call to demand immediate payment using a specific payment method such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer. Generally, the IRS will first mail you a bill if you owe any taxes.
- Threaten to immediately bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.
- Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
- Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

If you get a suspicious phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS and

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FTC.gov. Please add "IRS Telephone Scam" in the notes.

- If you think you might owe taxes, call the IRS directly at 800-829-1040.
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Taxes

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