

Know the Scam!

In 2020 victims 60 and older lost about \$1 billion to scams. Learn to spot the Top Four Scams reported by older adults:



Prizes, Sweepstakes, & Lottery Scams



Scammers convince victims that they've won a prize, such as a foreign lottery or Publisher's Clearinghouse, but they need to pay the taxes or a fee to get their reward. Foreign lotteries are illegal and it is against the law to require payment of taxes up front



Tech Support Scams



Scammers trick victims into believing there is a security threat or virus on their computer or device. They will ask for payment and remote control of your device to fix the "issue." Don't click on pop-ups or links sent via email or text, beware of unsolicited calls, and never allow someone you don't know any access to your device.



#2 Romance Scams



Scammers use social media & online dating to pretend to be in love with victims. If your relationship progresses very fast but your new partner refuses to meet in-person, or requests money or gift cards, it's probably a scam.



Imposter Scams



Scammers pretend to be the government, well known businesses, or even family and friends to get money or personal information from victims. The scammer will be in a hurry and tell you that it's urgent. They may tell you there will be consequences for not giving them what they want. Always take your time and verify that the caller is who they say they are, regardless of the "emergency."





COVID-19 SCAMS TASK FORCE

Funded in part by the Erie County Department of Social Services

The Center for Elder Law & Justice is leading a task force to serve as a hub for information and resources related to fraudulent activities surrounding the health pandemic. Please contact us for more information, to report a scam, or to schedule a free educational presentation.

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<u>elderjusticeny.org/covid-19-scams-</u> <u>taskforce/</u>