



# IRS warns people about a COVID-related text message scam

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The IRS and its [Security Summit](#) partners are warning people to be aware of a new text message scam. The thief's goal is to trick people into revealing bank account information under the guise of receiving the \$1,200 Economic Impact Payment.

## Here's how this scam works

People get a text message saying they have "received a direct deposit of \$1,200 from COVID-19 TREAS FUND. Further action is required to accept this payment... Continue here to accept this payment ..." The text includes a link to a phishing web address.

This fake link appears to come from a state agency or relief organization. It takes people to a fake website that looks like the IRS.gov [Get My Payment](#) website. If people visit the fake website and enter their personal and financial account information, the scammers collect it.


## Here's what people should do if they receive this message

Anyone who receives this scam text should take a screenshot and include the screenshot in an email to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov) with the following information:

- Date/time/time zone that they received the text message
- The phone number that received the text message

The IRS doesn't send unsolicited texts or emails. The agency will never demand immediate payment using a gift card, prepaid debit card or wire transfer or threaten to have a taxpayer arrested.

## More information:

- [IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting](#) 
- [Consumer Alerts](#)
- [Phone Scams](#)

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