



The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is warning taxpayers to be aware of IRS impersonation scams. People are receiving automated calls from scammers demanding tax payments on iTunes and other gift cards.

Typically, scammers leave urgent messages requesting a call back to settle their “tax bill.” These fake calls generally claim to be the last warning before legal action is taken. Once the victim calls back, the scammers may threaten to arrest, deport or revoke the driver’s license of the victim if they don’t agree to pay.

The IRS reminds taxpayers that any request to settle a tax bill by putting money on any form of gift card is a clear indication of a scam.

Since these bogus calls take many forms and scammers are constantly changing their strategies, knowing the signs is the best way to avoid becoming a victim. Remember, the IRS will never:

- Call to demand immediate payment over the phone, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill.
- 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.
- Require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer.
- Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS and asking for money and you don’t owe taxes, here’s what you should do:

- Do **NOT** give out any information. Hang up immediately.
- Contact TIGTA to report the call. Use their “[IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting](#)” web page or call 800-366-4484.
- Report it to the Federal Trade Commission. Use the “[FTC Complaint Assistant](#)” on [FTC.gov](#). Please add “IRS Telephone Scam” in the notes.

If you believe you may owe taxes, contact the IRS directly at 800-829-1040 or contact the IRS via www.irs.gov.