



# Beware of COVID-19 Vaccine Scams!

With vaccination ramping up both locally and across the nation, Hawai'i residents need to be on the alert for scammers seeking to steal cash and vital personal information.

The nationwide effort to vaccinate Americans against COVID-19 opens an opportunity for scammers to try to exploit you.

Be careful whenever dealing on the phone or online with strangers, especially those approaching you unsolicited asking for money or your vital information in exchange for anything tied to the COVID-19 vaccination.

## Key things to remember about the COVID-19 vaccine and the legitimate efforts to get everyone vaccinated:

- You don't have to pay to get your name on a vaccination list.
- You can't pay to "jump the line" and get earlier access to the vaccine.
- No one legitimate will call you about the vaccine and ask you for your Social Security, bank account or credit card number.

### Source

- <https://www.ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams-consumer-advice>

### Other Resources

- <https://hawaiiicovid19.com/>
- <https://cca.hawaii.gov/ocp/covid19/>
- <https://www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/federal-agencies-warn-of-emerging-fraud-schemes-related-to-covid-19-vaccines>
- <https://oig.hhs.gov/coronavirus/vaccine-scams2020.pdf>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html>

## Five things you can do to avoid a COVID-19 vaccination scam

- Ignore offers for home cure or vaccination kits. Scammers are selling products claiming to treat or prevent COVID-19 without any proof that they work.
- Hang up on robocalls. While it is illegal to do so, scammers still make unsolicited calls and ask you for money or your vital information such as your Social Security, credit card or bank account numbers.
- Expect to receive phishing emails and text messages. Never click on links in emails or text messages you didn't expect. If you feel tempted to do so, independently verify who is sending you the information.
- Research any requests for donations. Do your own research to make sure you are dealing with legitimate organizations and causes.



Stay informed! Go to the Federal Trade Commission's official website, [ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams](https://www.ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams), for the latest information on scams. You can also sign up for FTC alerts at [ftc.gov/subscribe](https://www.ftc.gov/subscribe).



*This message is brought to you by the Hawai'i State Department of Health and Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs*

[hawaiiicovid19.com](https://hawaiiicovid19.com)