



Be Supported



Be More Scam Aware

Here is some helpful advice to protect yourself from scams while you study at Chichester University.



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studentmoney@chi.ac.uk



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What scams should I look out for?

Below is a list of the most common scams that target students:

- Tuition Fee Fraud – Someone pretends to help you pay your fees but steals your money
- 'Fake Officials' Phone Scam – Someone calls you pretending to be from the police, bank, university or another official company.
- [Student Loans Company and Tax Refund Phishing Emails](#) – Fake emails asking for your details to steal money.
- [Online tickets for gigs](#) – Fake websites selling tickets for concerts or events.
- [Money Mule scams](#) – Someone asks you to move money through your bank account for them.
- [Free Wi-Fi](#) – Fake Wi-fi networks that steal your information.
- [Social Media Scams](#) – Messages, adverts or links that trick you into giving personal information.

What are scams?

A scam is when someone tricks you into giving them money, personal information, or something valuable. Many scams happen online, but they can also happen by phone or post. Scamming is illegal.



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Watch out for scammers

Scammers use many tricks to try and steal money or information from students. Here are some warning signs. Be careful if:

- You get a message or call out of nowhere, even if it looks like it's from someone you know.
- An offer sounds too good to be true
- You are asked to share personal information
- The message says you must act quickly
- There spelling or grammar mistakes
- You are told to keep it a secret
- There is little or no contact information



Tuition fee scams

International Students can be easy targets for this type of scam. [Read more here.](#)

Some scammers send messages or talk to you in person, offering fake discounts on tuition fees or good exchange rates. These scams are illegal. If you take part, you could lose your money or even get in trouble.

If you are contacted with an offer of this kind, don't reply, and make sure to report it to the University via the [Support and Information Zone](#).

- [Tuition Fee Scam Leaflet - in English](#)
- [Tuition Fee Scam Leaflet - in Chinese](#)



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Fake officials phone scam

This scam happens when someone calls your pretending to be an important person from HMRC, the Home Office, your bank, Chichester University staff, etc.

They say there is a serious problem with your bank account, visa or taxes. Sometimes they may say you've already been scammed and must act quickly. They might ask you to send money to a 'safe' bank account – but this is a trick and you will lose your money.

In some cases, they may threaten you with arrest or deportation unless you pay immediately.

What to do

- If someone calls asking for urgent action, hang up.
- Never transfer money or share personal details.
- Contact the real company using contact details from their official website.



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Reporting a scam

- Action Fraud (UK's fraud reporting centre)

Call 0300 123 2040 (Monday to Friday 8am – 8pm)

Or report online at [Action Fraud](#)

- Police – If you are at risk or need urgent help

Call 101 or use textphone on 18001 101

Call 999 if it's an emergency

- To report scam emails, send them to report@phishing.gov.uk
- Scam texts can be forwarded to 7726 or SPAM



Support at the university

- Student Money Team – offer advice and support if you have been scammed out of money. They can help you apply for the University Support Fund, a bursary, or an emergency loan if appropriate.
- The Support and Information Zone, (found within the Learning Resources Centre) is another place to go if you have been a victim of a scam.

Further Advice

- The Get Safe Online, and West Sussex County Council websites contain general advice about staying safe online and how to avoid being scammed.
- Money Helper also has further information about telephone scams.
- Make sure that your personal details and privacy are protected, particularly on social media. The Student Social Media and Communications Policy, gives advice on how to do this.

Who else to tell

If a scammer pretends to be from the University of Chichester, for example if you were contacted via your University email address, or if the scammer pretends to work for the University/offers a deal on your tuition fees, please speak to staff at the Support and Information Zone as soon as possible.

You can find more advice on the University's pages.



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