

4 TAX FRAUD SCAMS



1. EXECUTIVE IMPERSONATION

In this scam, the fraudster poses as a company executive requesting a list of employees or a file containing the W-2 information for employees. Complying and providing this information will likely result in the compromise of the personal data of your employees and enable the fraudster to perpetrate identity theft.



2. IRS IMPERSONATION

Fraudsters, posing as IRS employees or investigators, alert a taxpayer of a potential error in their return or an offer to recalculate the return for a larger refund, and convince the taxpayer to provide personal and private information – such as their social security number, user ID and password to the [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov) website, bank account information or a copy of their tax forms.



3. ADVANCED PAYMENT SCAM

In return for personal information or a fee, the fraudster offers early or advanced access to the tax return. There are certainly legitimate businesses that offer advanced access to funds for a fee, so thoroughly investigate the source before providing any information.



4. TAX PREPARERS, ADVISORS OR ADVOCATES

Choose your tax return preparer carefully. Even though most tax return preparers provide honest, quality service, some may cause harm through fraud, identity theft, and other scams. The IRS Taxpayer Advocate Service does not randomly contact taxpayers. Taxpayers reach out to the service first and are then contacted by an agent.
