

Dear Brown international students and scholars:

Due to a recent uptick of scam phone calls, particularly around tax season, we are sending this message out as a reminder. As a general precaution we would suggest that you do not answer your phone when you receive a call from an unknown caller, but rather let it go to your voicemail first (make sure to set it up, if you have not already done so).

Be safe,

Your OISSS team

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

The IRS warns about possible scam phone calls. Please take a moment and read the information via the links below about how to recognize a tax scam should you receive a suspicious call or phishing email message.

IRS Urges Public to Stay Alert for Scam Phone Calls

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-urges-public-to-stay-alert-for-scam-phone-calls>

Tax Scams/Consumer Alerts

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/tax-scams-consumer-alerts>

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

For scams related to immigration related matters please see the USCIS information at

<https://www.uscis.gov/scams-fraud-and-misconduct/avoid-scams>

<https://www.uscis.gov/scams-fraud-and-misconduct/avoid-scams/common-scams>

Social Security Administration

<https://www.ssa.gov/antifraudfacts/>

Information for the Brown community

If you have questions regarding phishing, have received a suspicious phone call or email, or simply wish to learn more about phishing, please go to the Computing and Information Services website at

<https://it.brown.edu/alerts/> phishing or email PhishBowl@brown.edu

Social security scam: <https://it.brown.edu/alerts/read/phone-scam-contact-tracer-soliciting-ssns>

Brown University - Legal Resource

If you are a Brown student who has become victim to scam or fraud calls and require legal advice, please contact Attorney Peter J. Cerilli at <https://www.brown.edu/campus-life/support/sarah-doyle-center/resources-emergency-contacts/attorney-peter-j-cerilli-open-hours>

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