Exchange Visitor Program | Trend Alert: Email and Phone Scams

October 28, 2019 - The following is an update regarding the Exchange Visitor Program and an increasing number of phone and email scams affecting exchange visitors. The US Department of State has seen a rise in housing and rental scams where J-1 exchange visitors, before the start of his or her program, have transferred money to a fraudulent realtor or landlord, scamming the J-1 exchange visitor out of hundreds, if not thousands of dollars. Other reported scams involve phone calls from alleged government representatives demanding personal information and money with threats of deportation from the United States.

If you are a J-1 Exchange Visitor at the University of Oklahoma and feel you have been a victim of a scam, please notify the International Faculty & Staff Services immediately at 405-271-2189.

Please refer to the links below for helpful resources on protecting your identity and personal information.

- [https://www.usa.gov/housing-scams#item-211837](https://www.usa.gov/housing-scams#item-211837)
- [https://www.usa.gov/identity-theft](https://www.usa.gov/identity-theft)
- [https://oig.ssa.gov/newsroom/scam-awareness](https://oig.ssa.gov/newsroom/scam-awareness)
- [https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog)
- [https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/pass-it-on/imposter-scams#](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/pass-it-on/imposter-scams#)
- [https://youtu.be/i4nCy6Xs6R8](https://youtu.be/i4nCy6Xs6R8)