

From: [IT Security](#)
To: [IT Security](#)
Subject: Security Advisory - Tuition Scam
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Attachments: [image002.png](#)



This is an official communications from IT Security and Compliance

ALERT:

Cal State LA has received an advisory from federal authorities regarding a scam that is occurring on U.S. colleges and universities primarily targeting international students. Students are being contacted via social media and offered a supposed deal to pay tuition charges and utility payments at a discounted rate. The scammer asks for the student's User ID and password so that the scammer can pay tuition charges by credit card. A confirmation message is then received by the student and the student is instructed to send the scammer a wire transfer payment or check for the tuition amount, less a five percent discount. Once the wire transfer has been completed, students are finding that their online tuition payment was made with stolen credit card information and that their tuition was not paid. Students are unable to recover their funds. The scam is currently focused on a few colleges and universities but is spreading to other institutions. .

RECOMMENDATION:

This advisory is to alert students of this fraudulent activity. We strongly urge students to never share their online credentials with anyone. In addition, students should only use payment methods and third parties approved by Cal State LA. Students should also advise their parents/guardians not to respond to any third party solicitations for payment of tuition fees at a discount.

If you wish to verify the authenticity of this message, please contact the ITS Help Desk at 323-343-6170 and reference the message number above. ITS e-mails will never ask you for your user ID or password or provide you with a link to a website that asks for your user ID or password.



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