



To all students and parents,

First of all, on behalf of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF), I would like to extend our warmest welcome to you in Hong Kong. While settling into university life, it is crucial to stay vigilant against deception.

Last year alone, we saw 44,480 cases in Hong Kong, with nearly HK\$9.15 billion lost. That's why, as the Commissioner of Police, I am reaching out to help you spot and avoid these scams. Past figure suggested that scammers always prey upon international students' limited knowledge of local judicial processes and their inherent trust in governmental bodies. Last year, there were 327 cases of telephone deception involving post-secondary mainland students in Hong Kong, of which 318 cases resulted in monetary losses, amounting to \$235.5 million. Therefore, I would like to specifically draw your attention to the following common scenarios:

Impersonation of Law Enforcement

Someone claiming to be from "Mainland/Hong Kong law enforcement," accusing you of fraud or money laundering, and even sending a "warrant" demanding "surety"?

- ⚠️ Law enforcement agencies will never handle cases by phone**
- ⚠️ Never transfer money to a phone caller claiming to be officials**
- ⚠️ Real arrest warrants don't come through chat apps.**

Online Shopping Scams

Encountering "too-good-to-be-true" discounts or limited-time offers?

- ⚠️ Always verify if the link directs to an official platform before payment.**
- ⚠️ Opt for face-to-face transactions where possible.**
- ⚠️ Never transfer large sums to personal accounts.**

Employment Fraud: "Click Farm"

Encountering job offer boasting "hefty commission", "qualification or experience not needed" and "work from home"?

- ⚠️ It is probably a scam if it claims to recruit "click farmers", "operators" or "likers".**
- ⚠️ Be extremely cautious if employers just leave their social media or instant messaging application accounts for contact.**



Impersonating Customer Services Scam

Receiving phone calls purportedly made by customer service staff member of a telecommunications service provider, or online shopping platform and request to make payment due to various reasons?

- ⚠ **Verify their identities by calling the contact numbers shown on official websites.**
- ⚠ **Do not disclose your online banking password and one-time password to strangers.**
- ⚠ **Enter suspicious information on “Scameter” or “Scameter+”, the mobile app of “Scameter”, for security check.**

Investment Fraud

Promises of "insider tips" or "exclusive investment channels" with guaranteed returns?

- ⚠ **"Zero-risk" investments are highly likely to be scams.**
- ⚠ **If asked to pay additional "fees/taxes" to withdraw funds, stop immediately and report to the police.**

Impersonating Friends/Family

Even if a "relative or friend" calls requesting money, always verify their identity in person or via video call before transferring any funds.

If you or your parents encounter any of these situations or have doubts about a transaction, call 18222 to contact the HKPF's Anti-Deception Coordination Centre (ADCC) for assistance!

Finally, I sincerely hope every student can achieve success and enjoy a happy learning experience in Hong Kong.

***Chow Yat-ming, Joe
Commissioner of Police
Hong Kong Police Force***

