

How to Spot and Avoid EBT Scams Targeting Older Iowans



September 2025

EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer) scammers have been targeting Older Iowans. If you ever get a call, text, or email asking for your EBT card number or PIN, it's a scam. Criminals are pretending to be from the state benefits office or SNAP customer service to steal EBT funds. Scammers claim your benefits will be frozen or lost unless you "verify" your account immediately. Once the scammers have this information, they can clone your card or drain your account.

Protect yourself:

- Never share your EBT card number or PIN by phone, text, or email.
- Your benefits office will never ask for your PIN.
- Hang up or delete any suspicious message.
- Do not click on links from unknown numbers or emails—even if they look "official." Fake websites can look identical to the real Iowa EBT site.

If you get a suspicious message:

Contact Iowa EBT Customer Service directly to confirm if it's legitimate:

1-800-359-5802 (Available 24/7)

If you were victimized:

Call the Iowa Attorney General – Consumer Protection Division:

515-281-5926 or 1-888-777-4590

www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov or

the Federal Trade Commission at:

www.reportfraud.ftc.gov

14th Annual Quad Cities

Caregiver Conference

Saturday

November 8

8am - Noon

Golden Leaf Ctr
2902 Kimberly Rd.
Davenport, IA

Word Scrambler

Unscramble the letters to form a common word.

Example: DRBAE

Answer: BREAD

1. VEARSTH

2. PRESEMTBE

3. PMUINKP

4. WTAEESR

5. PPAEL

6. QITLU

7. FOIERBN

7. BONFIRE

6. QUILT

5. APPLE

4. SWEATER

3. PUMPKIN

2. SEPTEMBER

1. HARVEST

Answers:

Community Cafe Events

- **Silver Steppers:** Line dancing every Tuesday from 9:00am to 11:00am. Newberry Center, 728 Ave. G. Fort Madison, IA.
- **B-I-N-G-O:** Bingo every Thursday, 12 noon. Bloomfield Senior Center, 109 E. Franklin St, Bloomfield, IA.
- **Crafternoon:** First Thursday of each month. 1pm, Newberry Center, 728 Ave. G., Fort Madison, IA.
- **Card Club:** Every Thursday at 10am. Community Center, 104 Sand Run Rd., Fruitland, IA.
- **Walking Club:** Every Wednesday at 10:30am. Free Methodist Church, 820 E. Penn. Ave. Ottumwa, IA.