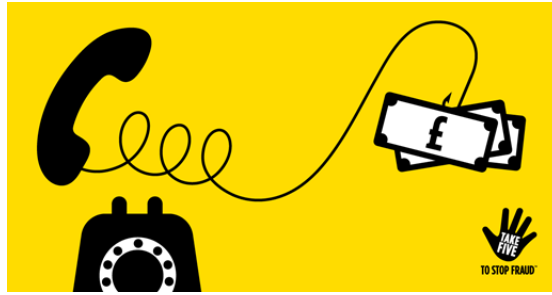


## Studying in the UK? Please be aware of UK legislation and common scams!



To all our friends arriving in the UK to study this year - we wish you the best of luck and are confident that you will have a truly GREAT time.

The UK offers international students an academic experience that is very hard to beat.

To ensure you have the most rewarding experience, we want to make sure that you are aware of UK laws and regulations and common scams.

### UK money laundering legislation

The UK remains one of the safest and most popular places for international students to achieve their potential. However, criminals in the UK are trying to recruit students as **Money Mules** to help place their proceeds of crime into the UK banking system. This illegal cash is often derived from major crimes like terrorism and drug trafficking. Being a Money Mule is illegal: you could be dismissed from university, go to prison for up to 14 years, get a criminal record, have your UK bank account closed.

- **NEVER** allow anyone else to have control of your bank account, either whilst in the UK or after you have left
- **NEVER** let anyone else transfer money through your bank account
- **NEVER** open a bank account in your name on behalf of someone else
- **NEVER** use your bank account to help strangers transfer money from your country to the UK

If you think that someone is trying to recruit you as a Money Mule, please report it to the charity CrimeStoppers anonymously.

**CrimeStoppers.**  
**0800 555 111**  
100% anonymous. Always.

### Common scams

A small minority of students in the UK also fall victim to telecoms frauds. The most common scam is that a scammer will call you pretending to be from the Police or Prosecutors. They will tell you:

- You are under investigation for a crime and a warrant has been issued for your arrest.
- You must not tell anyone about the call and not return to University or your home.
- You must go to a hotel and pretend to be tied up and injured.
- You must send a photograph to your parents and ask them for money.

Criminals are experts at impersonating people, organisations and the police. They spend hours researching you for their scams, hoping you'll let your guard down for just a moment.

**Stop:** Take a moment to stop and think before sending any money to someone you don't know.

**Challenge:** Could it be fake? It's OK to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

**Protect:** Contact the UK Police immediately on 999 and do not send any money.



If you think you've fallen for a scam report it to **ACTION FRAUD** by calling 03001232040 or online at: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk>.

The UK and international countries are working together to combat these scams. More information is available on the UK Finance's website: <https://www.ukfinance.org.uk/fraud-and-scams>.

- Money Mules - <https://moneymules.co.uk/tips/>
- Guard against "virtual kidnapping" - <https://nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk>
- Identify fraudulent calls - <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet>
- Telecoms frauds - <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk>

Please stay safe and we wish you all the best on your new adventure in the UK and for all your future endeavours!

**Retweet:**

The UK is a GREAT place to study and the vast majority of students in the UK enjoy a positive, life-changing experience. However, a small number of students in the UK are falling for telecoms fraud scams and others are being asked to hand over their bank account details to criminals to launder proceeds of serious crimes.

Letting someone else use your bank account is illegal and you could receive a criminal record in the UK. If you have been targeted, report what you know to the charity CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111.

Please be cautious of those who call your mobile number and claim to be from the 'authorities'. If they ask you to pay money and reveal personal information, take a moment to STOP and think. It's OK to ignore unknown calls, and refuse demands for money. If you need help, contact the UK Police immediately on 999 and do not send any money.