

Only 28% of Coloradans ordered their free credit report in the last 12 months.

Fraud, scams and, identity theft can negatively affect Coloradans of all ages and backgrounds

A new survey report, released by AARP ElderWatch, shares data about online behaviors, experiences with scams, instances of identity theft and measures used to avoid fraud by adults (18+) in Colorado.

The survey, [Fraud Experience and Prevention Among Coloradans 18-Plus](#), explored the behaviors, experiences, potential exposure and feelings about fraud and identity theft of adults in Colorado.

AARP ElderWatch
a partnership with the Colorado Attorney General

Only 28%

of Coloradans ordered a copy of their free annual credit report in the last 12 months



AARP RESEARCH | Fraud Experience and Prevention Among Coloradans 18+

“Protecting Colorado consumers and providing them with the tools and resources to help defend themselves from scams and fraud is one of our top priorities,” said Attorney General Phil Weiser. “This survey provides valuable information about scams targeting Coloradans and identifies important steps they can take to avoid falling victim to them.”

[Read more](#)



News from Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser

Attorney General Phil Weiser announces additional student loan relief for former Colorado Art Institute students

Attorney General Phil Weiser this month returned more than \$66,000 to former Art Institute of Colorado students who were defrauded when the school’s corporate owner, Dream Center Education Holdings, failed to inform them that it lost its accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission.

[Read more](#)

Denver District Court judge orders CollegeAmerica to pay \$3 million in civil penalties to state and forgive loans for deceiving students

CollegeAmerica, a for-profit entity, knowingly took advantage of students in Colorado by luring them into high-priced, low-quality programs with promises of high-earning potential and job placement that it knew were not attainable. In so doing the school unconscionably enrolled students in its private student loan program, leaving them saddled with crushing debt and no chance of career advancement.

[Read more](#)

As Online Sales Soar During Pandemic, Cybercrooks Pose as Amazon

Protect yourself, your personal information, and your wallet from coronavirus scams.

Scammers love to use the same old tricks in new ways. One of their favorites is to pose as a business

to pressure you into sending them money or personal information. Amazon, an online behemoth with \$281 billion in sales in 2019, has long been an attractive company for imposters to imitate.

Remember, Amazon never sends unsolicited emails asking for sensitive information like your Social Security or tax-ID number or [bank account number](#).

[Read more](#)



Utility company calling? Don't fall for it.

NEVER provide personal or financial information in response to an unsolicited telephone call or email.



[Read more](#)

Every day, millions of people who have lost their jobs are making difficult choices about how to pay their bills. As the Coronavirus continues to spread, scammers are taking advantage of people's heightened economic anxiety. Their latest ploy is posing as representatives from utility companies to dupe people out of their cash and personal information by convincing them their utilities will be shut off if they don't pay.

Avoid Coronavirus Scams

If you suspect a scam, let us know about it at www.StopFraudColorado.gov.

- Learn how to [tell the difference between](#) a real contact tracer and a scammer. Legitimate tracers need health information, not money or personal financial information.
- Don't respond to texts, emails or calls about checks from the government. Here's [what you need to know](#).
- Ignore offers for vaccinations and home test kits. Scammers are selling products to treat or prevent COVID-19 without proof that they work.
- Be wary of ads for test kits. Most test kits being advertised have not been approved by the FDA and aren't necessarily accurate.
- Hang up on robocalls. Scammers are using [illegal robocalls](#) to pitch everything from low-priced health insurance to work-at-home schemes.
- Do your homework when it comes to charitable [donations](#). Never donate in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money.

Stay Informed

For the most up-to-date information about the Coronavirus, visit the websites of the:

- [Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

COVID-19 Consumer Advice from Attorney General Phil Weiser

The Office of Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser created a [webpage](#), also available in [Spanish](#), offering guidance and alerting consumers about how they can protect themselves against COVID-19-related scams.

Take time to report fraud or suspicious activity

By learning how to avoid scams related to the Coronavirus, we can work together to ensure no one in our state is taken in by these malicious attempts to defraud Colorado consumers during this public health emergency.

If you notice any scams, fraud, price gouging, or other attempts to take advantage of Coloradans during this public health emergency, contact Stop Fraud Colorado at 800-222-4444 or www.StopFraudColorado.gov.

[Tell us your story](#)