

College Sports Tickets Scam

With the start of the college football season, fans are warned to be extra alert when purchasing tickets especially when a game is sold out. That is when fake websites, social media or message groups lure fans with offers for scarce discount tickets.

Remember the following:

- ❖ Do not give out sensitive information to strangers attempting to sell you tickets, in order to avoid identify theft.
- ❖ Look for websites that are look a-likes to real websites and have misspellings.
- ❖ Do not pay for tickets using cryptocurrency, gift cards or wire transfers
- ❖ Be leery of prices that seem “to good to be true.”
- ❖ Your tickets should not be ‘printable’ or from a screenshot. Most athletic event tickets require a scannable bar code.

How to protect yourself:

- Buy from authorized sites.
- Use credit cards.
- Meet in person and make your purchase in a secure, public place such as a police station.
- Verify the tickets by confirming the seat numbers, rows and digital transfers directly through the venues’ box office before handing over any money.

To Report a scam, contact:

- the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/report-fraud)
- the Better Business Bureau at [BBB Scam Tracker](https://www.bbb.org/scam-tracker)
- the Platform or Marketplace (for fake account or posts)
- your bank or credit card company
- State Consumer Protection Office for the Attorney General or consumer protection division.