UMBC

Welcome International Students!

Spring 2021

Safety, Scams, & Single Sign-On

Safety

Staying safe on- and off-campus

E2 Alerts (*my*UMBC)

Police escort service, role of police on campus

Blue Lights

Travel in groups after dark

Don’t leave stuff unattended

Be aware of your surroundings. This includes headphone use.

Don’t display valuables

Avoid unlit areas

Don’t explore areas new to you after dark

No party fouls

Always be aware of your drink. Watch it being made, keep it with you at all times.

Don’t lose control unless you are in a safe environment, with people you trust

Don’t hesitate to call 911 for help if a friend is too drunk (x55555 on campus)

Know age limits drinking & tobacco (21), recreational drugs (Never!) Very serious.

Drinking and Driving is extremely illegal and can result in deportation!

Affirmative, enthusiastic consent in intimate situations (giving & receiving)

UHS can consult on sexual and reproductive health

Police

If someone is in danger, emergency services are available to help - Call 9-1-1!

If on UMBC's campus, you can reach UMBC Police at 410-455-5555 (x55555 from any campus phone) - Blue Lights

HOWEVER, the police should not be used to resolve minor disputes with roommates or neighbors

The police are not allowed to take bribes

You can get an officer's badge number if you are treated unfairly or in a discriminatory manner.

Scams

What's a scam?

Scams are usually in the form of **phone calls** or **emails** from fraudulent individuals trying to obtain personal information or money from you.

These individuals are trying to take advantage of you and use your information for harmful purposes.

It happens to everyone! Be prepared and don't freak out. These are criminals trying to steal your money or identity.

How do I know if a phone call is a scam?

1. The callers claim to be from a government organization, such as USCIS, the IRS, or a court – **these organizations will never call you!**
2. The caller uses high-pressure tactics to try to get what they want, threatening you with things like deportation, arrest, and more.
3. The caller will not let you off the phone to verify if it is a legitimate call.
   If you were in enough trouble that these were things that might happen to you, it wouldn't be a surprise to you, and you would NOT get a call about it.
4. The caller does not sound professional.
5. The caller asks or demands money or personal information – this is certainly a scam!!

How do I know if an email is a scam?

1. Check the email address of the sender. For example, a recent scam claimed to be the “UMBC WebMail Program” but had a non-UMBC email address.
2. Is the language professional? Many scammers are not native English speakers, do not write in professional English, or make many mistakes.
3. The email asks for money or personal information. US government organizations will not ask for personal information or money via email.
4. The email is threatening.
5. The email doesn’t make sense. For example, the “UMBC WebMail Program” email would clearly be a scam because UMBC does not use WebMail. You can google search UMBC Webmail Program and won’t be able to find anything – this tells you it is likely a scam.

Common Scam #1: USCIS, SSA, IRS Phone Scams

Student receives a call from someone from USCIS with the USCIS National Customer Service Center number.

The “representative” provides personal identifiable information about academic status and immigration/visa records including passport number.

The “representative” insists that the student is out of status and he/she must wire money to “USCIS” to fix the problem. Otherwise, the student must leave the country immediately.

The “representative” provided a batch ID number and told the student to go to the airport after the wire transfer.

Common Scam #1: USCIS, SSA, IRS Phone Scams

Remember, the USCIS, IRS, SSA will **never** call your personal phone.

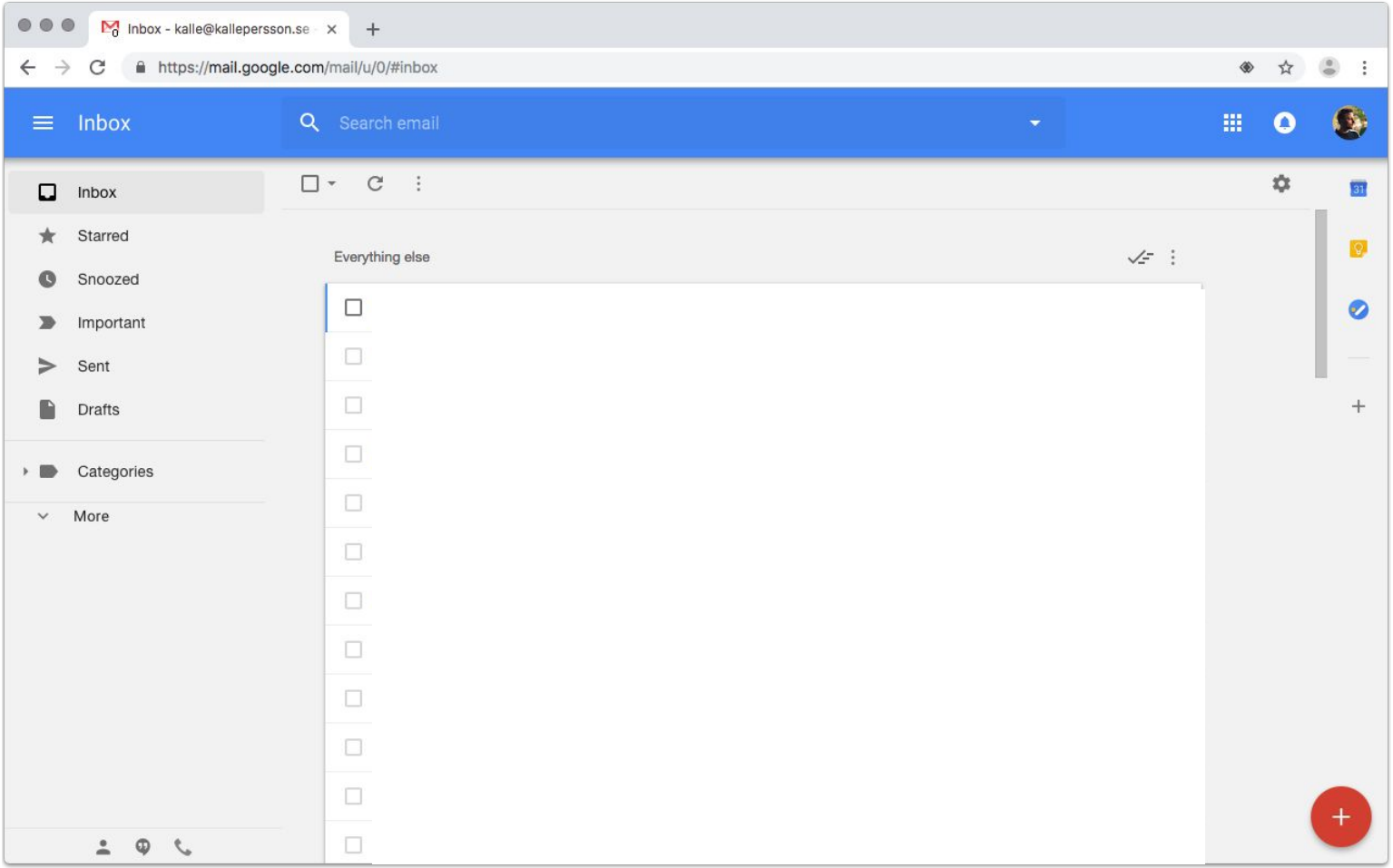
Your international student advisor can always confirm your status by accessing your SEVIS record.

USCIS would never request money over the phone to “fix” your status.

Never handle money before I-9 process and onboarding

Easy - obvious DS-260, gift cards

UMBC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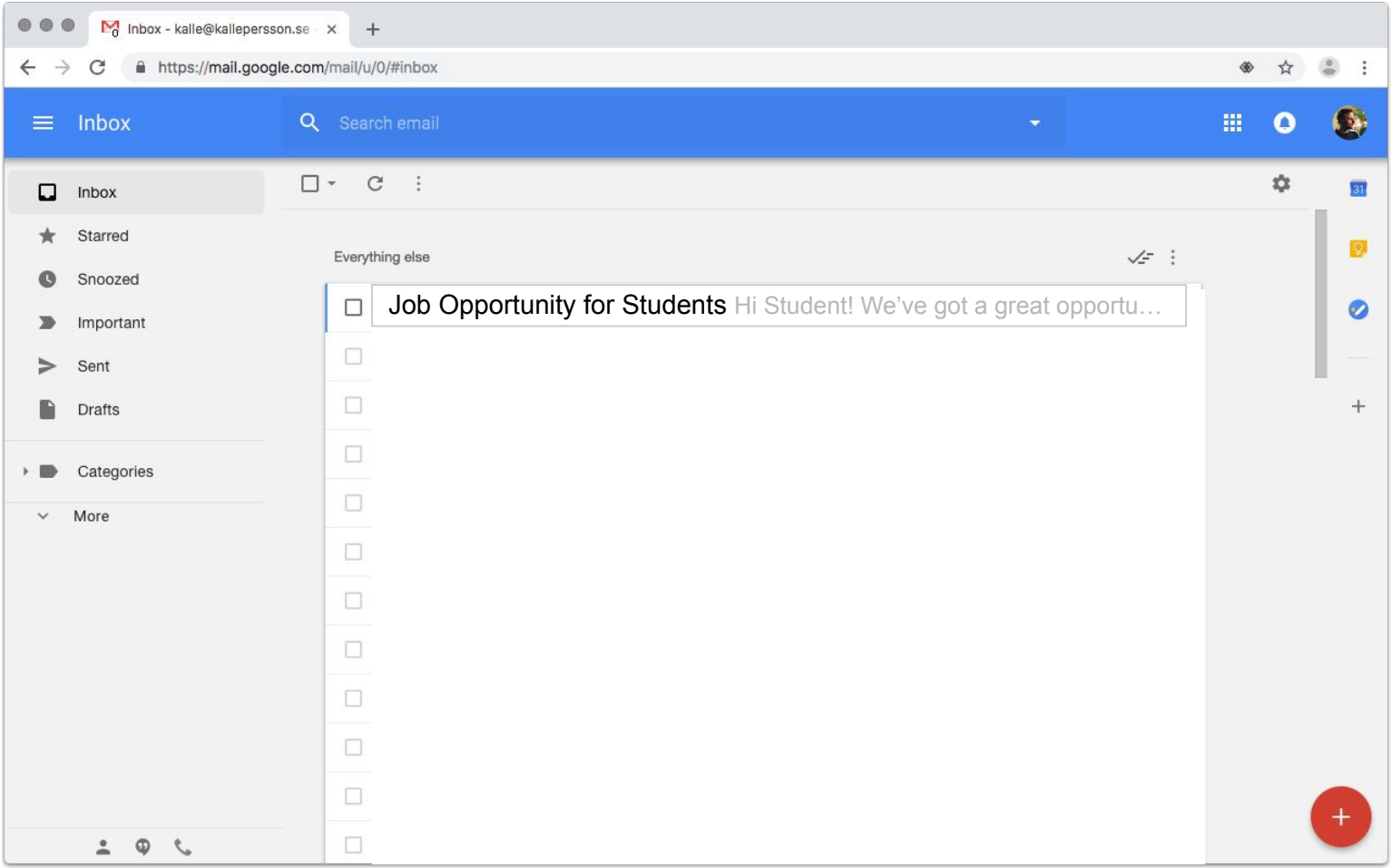
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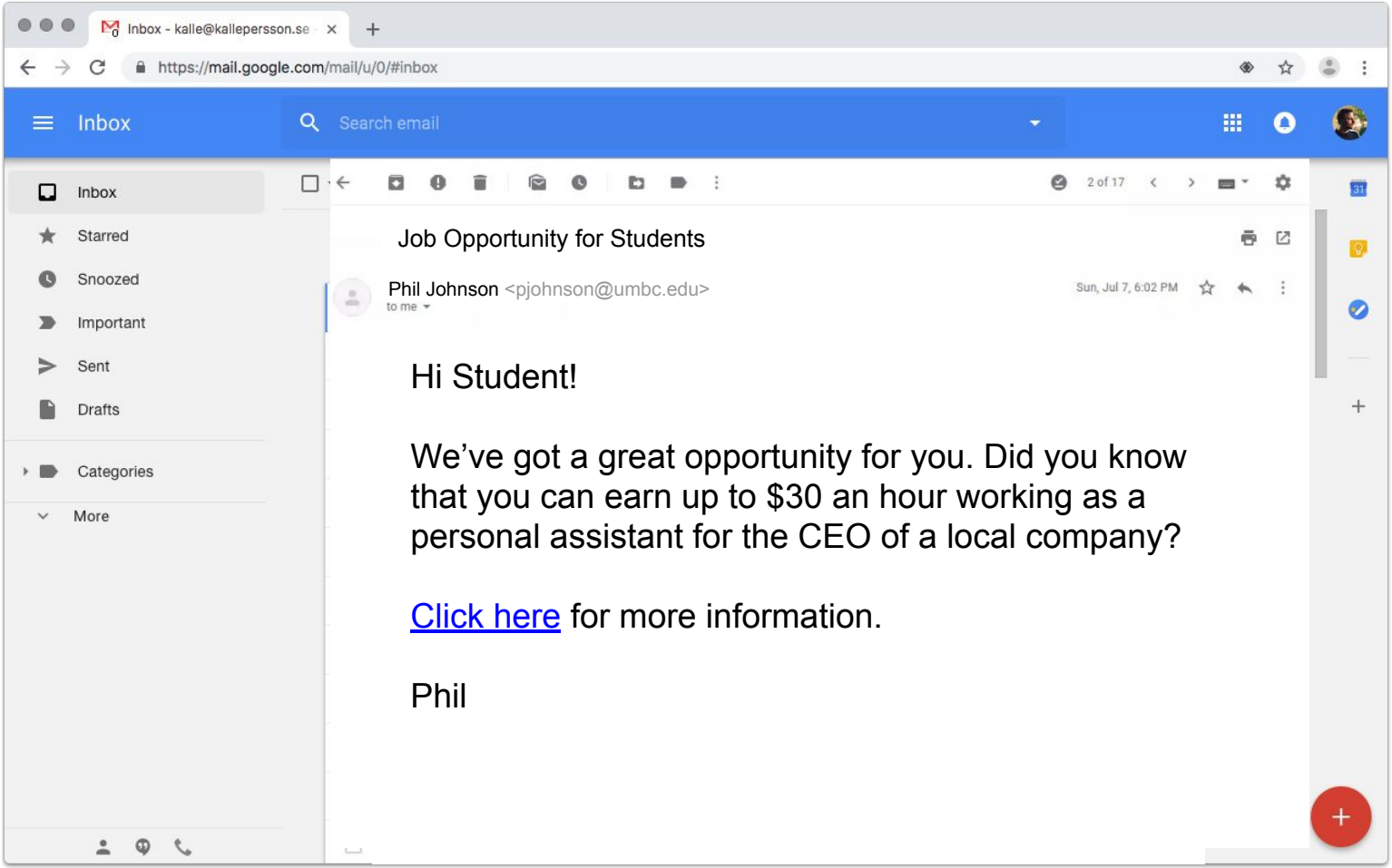
Job Opportunity for Students Hi Student! We've got a great opportu…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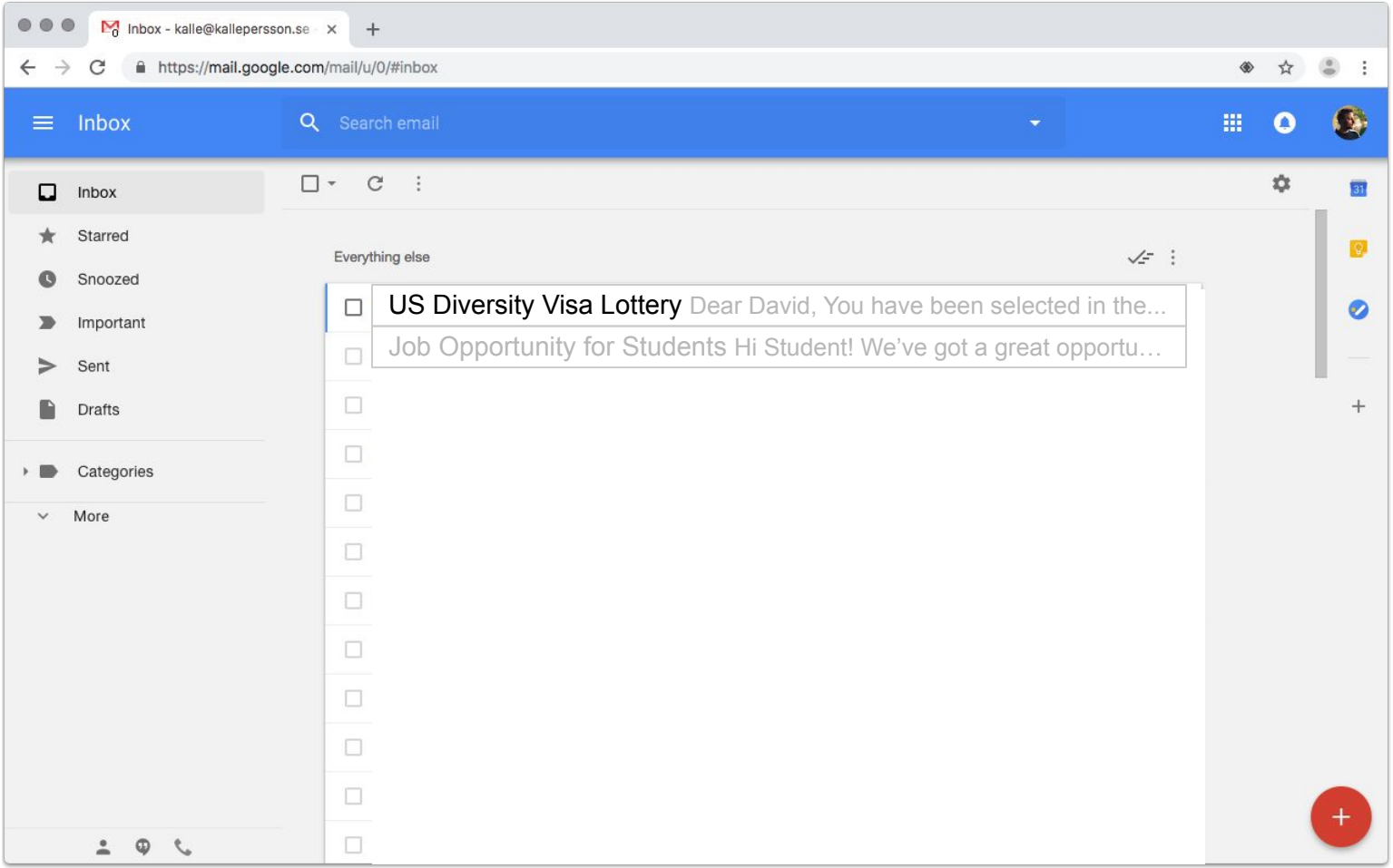
2 of 17
Job Opportunity for Students
Phil Johnson <pjohnson@umbc.edu>
to me
Sun, Jul 7, 6:02 PM
Hi Student!
We've got a great opportunity for you. Did you know that you can earn up to $30 an hour working as a personal assistant for the CEO of a local company?
Click here for more information.
Phil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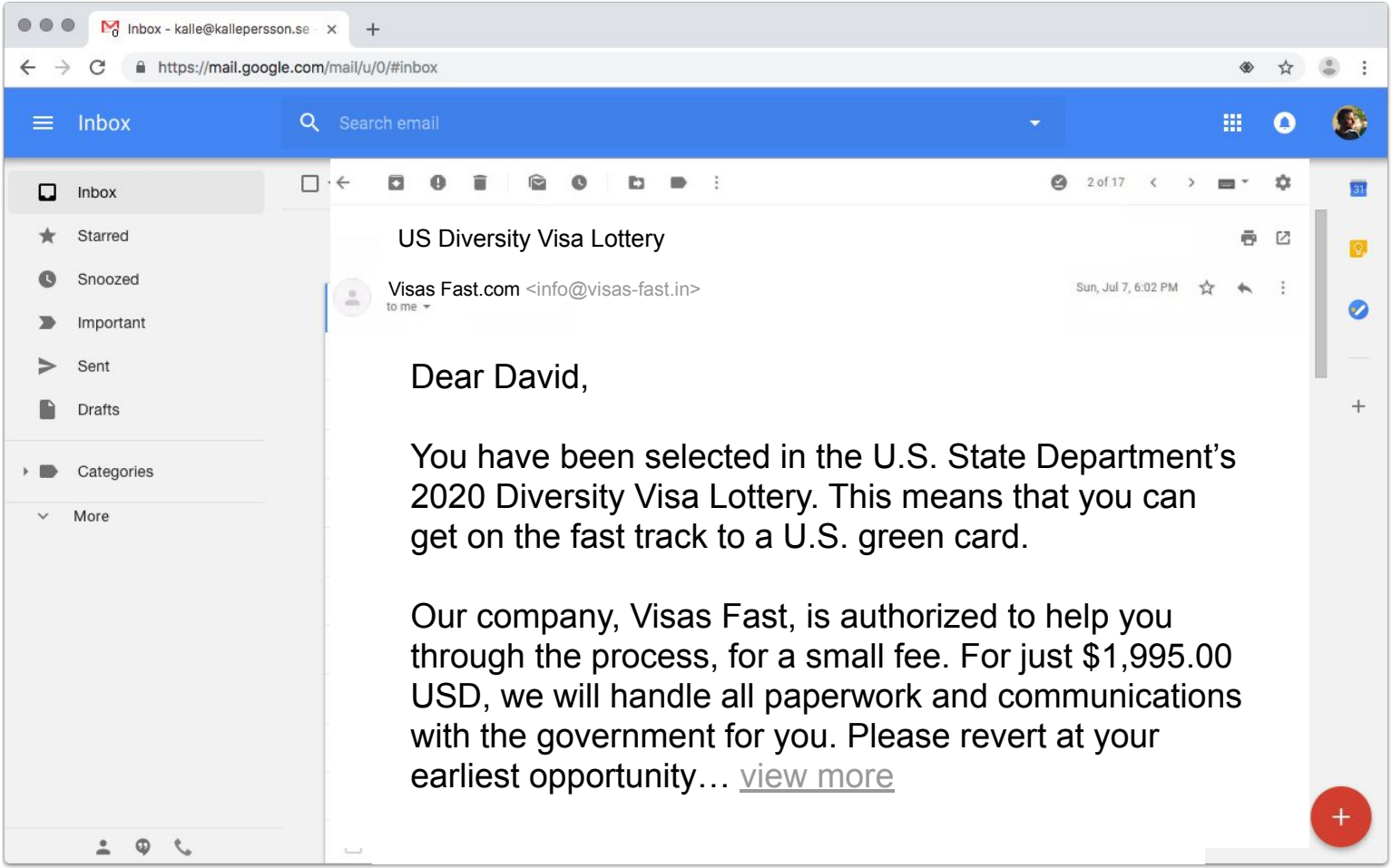
US Diversity Visa Lottery Dear David, You have been selected in the...
Job Opportunity for Students Hi Student! We've got a great opportu...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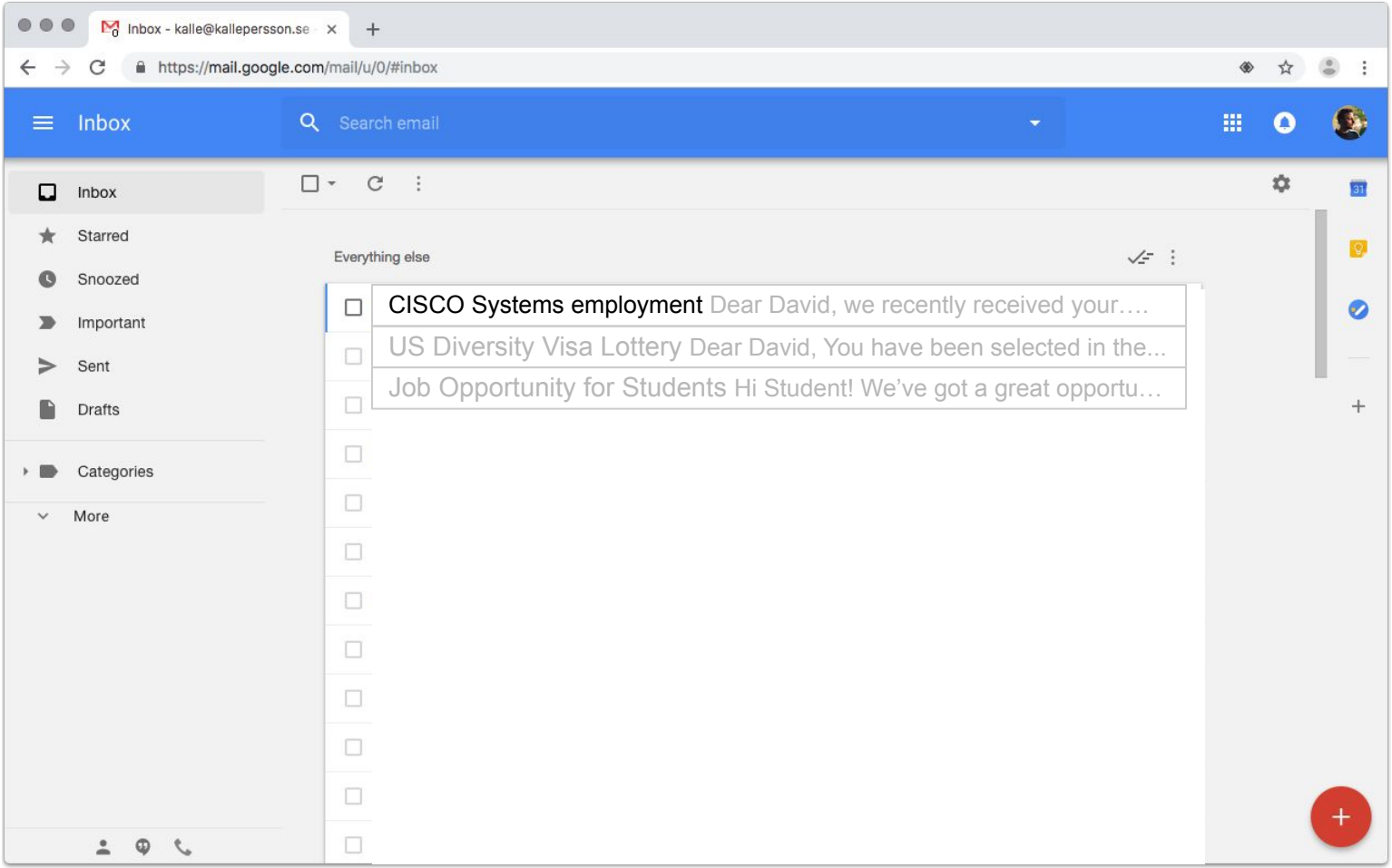
2 of 17
US Diversity Visa Lottery
Visas Fast.com <info@visas-fast.in>
to me
Sun, Jul 7, 6:02 PM
Dear David,
You have been selected in the U.S. State Department's 2020 Diversity Visa Lottery. This means that you can get on the fast track to a U.S. green card.
Our company, Visas Fast, is authorized to help you through the process, for a small fee. For just $1,995.00 USD, we will handle all paperwork and communications with the government for you. Please revert at your earliest opportunity… view more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US Diversity Visa Lottery Dear David, You have been selected in the...
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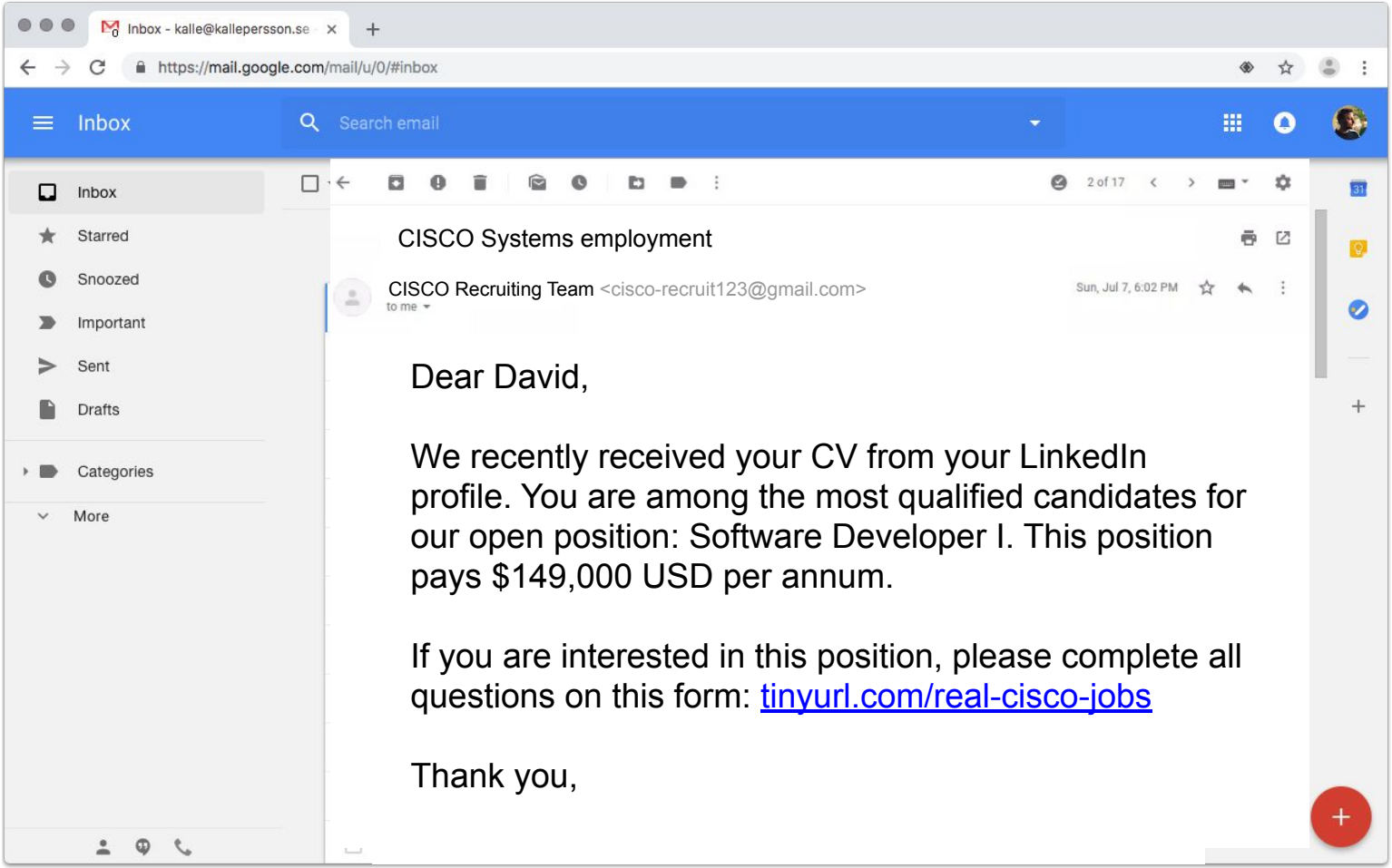
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2 of 17
CISCO Systems employment
CISCO Recruiting Team <cisco-recruit123@gmail.com>
to me
Sun, Jul 7, 6:02 PM
Dear David,
We recently received your CV from your LinkedIn profile. You are among the most qualified candidates for our open position: Software Developer I. This position pays $149,000 USD per annum.
If you are interested in this position, please complete all questions on this form: tinyurl.com/real-cisco-jobs
Thank you,

Common Scams #3: Email Scams

These most commonly appear to be from UMBC and ask you to click a link to verify your email account, at the risk of it being disabled.

If the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) needed something like this to be done, they would alert the campus community in advance.

Offers to work as a “personal assistant” as an F-1 student.

Offers to make extra cash through money transfers

Anything that seems too good to be true almost certainly is!

How do I protect myself from scams?

Block calls, or don’t answer calls from numbers you don’t know (iOS option)

Some network providers/phone OSs offer services to help screen calls

Important legitimate callers will leave a voicemail message

Know the signs of a scam - don’t be a victim! Hang up, or better yet, waste THEIR time but don’t give them anything!

If you are truly concerned it might be legitimate, take a call-back number and consult with IES.

How do I protect myself from scams?

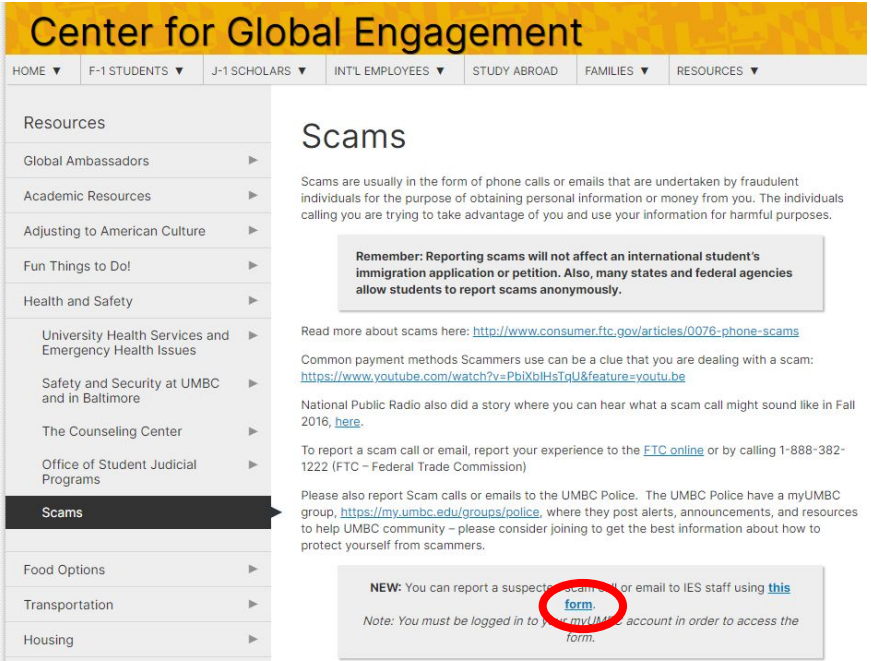
REMEMBER:

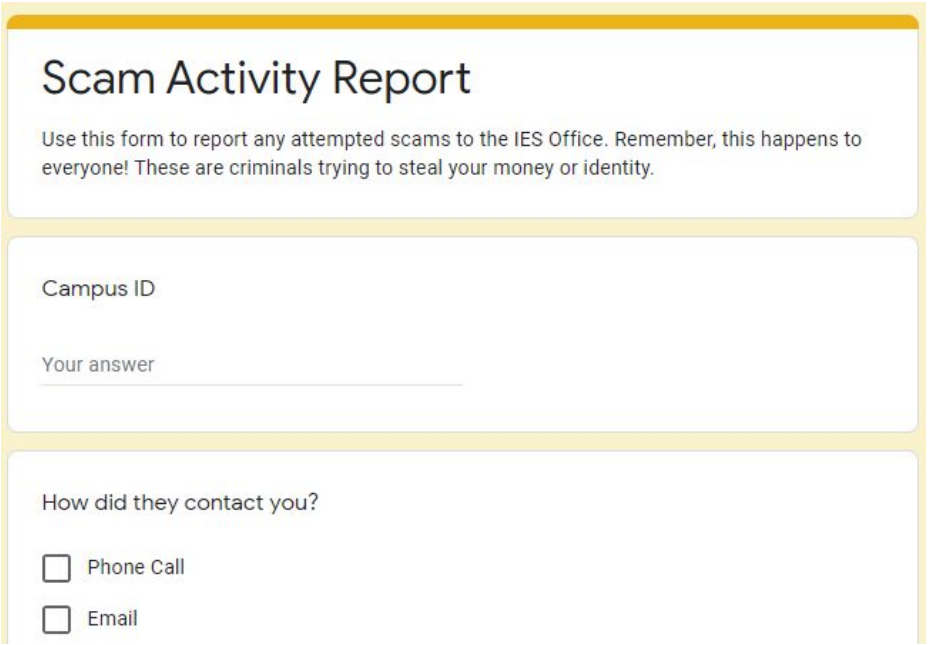
THE GOVERNMENT WILL NEVER CALL YOU, NEVER DEMAND MONEY OR PERSONAL INFO, AND NEVER THREATEN YOU. Hang up, it's a scam!

If you hang up once, don't pick up the number again.

The scammer will eventually give up and move on.

Report suspected scams to ISSS!





Direct link → ies.umbc.edu/scams

Single Sign-On

What is Single Sign On?

The one username & password combination you can use to access nearly ALL campus services online (*my*UMBC, IES Portal, billing, courses, grades, etc.)

DON'T SHARE! You may have already shared with - family, agent, friends.

What should you do? CHANGE YOUR PASSWORD, now and periodically

You NEVER need to share your single sign on login information, and should NEVER do it

This includes friends, family, and significant others (boyfriends/girlfriends/spouses)

What if a family member does need access?

General guidelines for limited profile sharing
https://sbs.umbc.edu/disclosure-of-information/profile-sharing/

Parent PIN for billing
https://sbs.umbc.edu/payments/parent-pin-login/

Third Party Billing guidelines
https://sbs.umbc.edu/payments/agency-payments/

How do I keep my data safe?

CHANGE YOUR PASSWORD, now and periodically

We repeat: you NEVER need to share your Single Sign On login information

ALWAYS log out of your *my*UMBC account before leaving a public workstation

Consider a private browsing (or “incognito”) window to keep your information out of the browser history

Don’t save your password on any computer that is not uniquely yours