



Phishing Attack Targeting University Students

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PHISHING ATTACK TARGETING UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

The information contained within this alert is based on the reports received by Action Fraud and the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) phishing inbox in April and May 2016. The purpose of this alert is to raise awareness of a phishing scam targeting students of UK universities.

ALERT

A new phishing campaign which has hit students of UK universities claims that the student has been awarded an educational grant by the Department for Education. The email (example below) purports to have come from the Finance Department of the student's university and tricks the recipient into clicking on a link contained in the message to provide personal and banking details.

One victim reported that after submitting their sensitive information (including name, address, date of birth, contact details, telephone provider, bank account details, student ID, National Insurance Number, driving licence number and mother's maiden name), they were taken to a spoofed website which appeared like a genuine website of their bank, where they were asked to type in their online banking login credentials.

From: University of 
Sent: 14 May 2016 09:19
To: 
Subject: You have been awarded a grant


I am pleased to inform you that you have been awarded the Student Educational Grant by the Department for Education (DfE). The grant is based on student's financial circumstance and academic performance.

As it is our interest to ensure that you are funded hassle-free, please submit your details via the link below as soon as possible so that your grant can be processed promptly.

[Account Link...](#)

Again, congratulation on your award.

Sincerely,

The University of 

Finance Department

PROTECTION / PREVENTION ADVICE

- Do not click on any links or open attachments contained within unsolicited emails.
- Do not reply to scam emails or contact the senders in any way.
- If an email appears to have come from a person or organisation you know of but the message is unexpected or unusual, contact them directly via another method to confirm that they sent you the email.
- If you receive an email which asks you to login to an online account via a link provided in the email, instead of clicking on the link, open your browser and go directly to the company's website yourself.
- If you have clicked on a link in the email, do not supply any information on the website that may open.
- If you think you may have compromised the safety of your bank details and/or have lost money due to fraudulent misuse of your cards, you should immediately contact your bank, and report it to **Action Fraud**.

If you, or anyone you know, have been affected by this fraud or any other scam, report it to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk.

FEEDBACK

The NFIB needs feedback from our readers to evaluate the quality of our products and to inform our priorities. Please would you complete the following NFIB feedback survey through: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FeedbackSDU>. This should take you no more than 2 minutes to complete. If you have other feedback or additional information that you would prefer to provide by email please send to NFIBfeedback@cityoflondon.pnn.police.uk.