



Using Snopes to Identify Internet Hoaxes

There are many e-mail hoaxes and scams that can make their way to your inbox. It is important to be vigilant when dealing with e-mail from unknown persons or groups. Snopes is a website geared toward validating and debunking urban legends, Internet rumors, emails forwarding, and other questionable stories or hoaxes.

Step 1: Login to Snopes by typing www.Snopes.com into your Internet browser address bar.

Step 2: Type the e-mail subject title or keyword of the document that you have a suspicion about into the search bar and **left-click** Go.

SEARCH: **GO!**

Step 3: Snopes will display the search results in its search engine.

Step 4: Select the result that sounds similar to what you are searching for by **left-clicking** the title.

1. [snopes.com: Government Grant Scam ****](#)
Are telephone solicitors looking to hook you up with a variety of government grants?
...Grant's Boon Grant's Boon Scam: Telephone solicitors call out of the blue looking to hook you up with thousands of dollars worth of government...
...Grant Association. The caller then leads the person to believe they have qualified for a government **grant** and in order to pay out the **grant** they need the...
...**grants** into agreeing to have an "up-front fee" (usually \$249) siphoned from their bank accounts. Though the fee is taken immediately, the **grants** never...
Wed, 28 Jan 2009 19:26:43 GMT <http://www.snopes.com/crime/fraud/govgrant.asp>

Step 5: Review the example to make sure that it is the same e-mail or hoax.

Step 6: Snopes will explain to you if this is a legitimate document and give you the status, origins, and tell you if it contains any viruses.

Still can't fix it? Email the CAS Resource Center at fixit@ext.msstate.edu.

