



# WHAT THE AUSTRALIAN TAX OFFICE (ATO) WON'T DO

Protect yourself from cyber  
scams this tax season

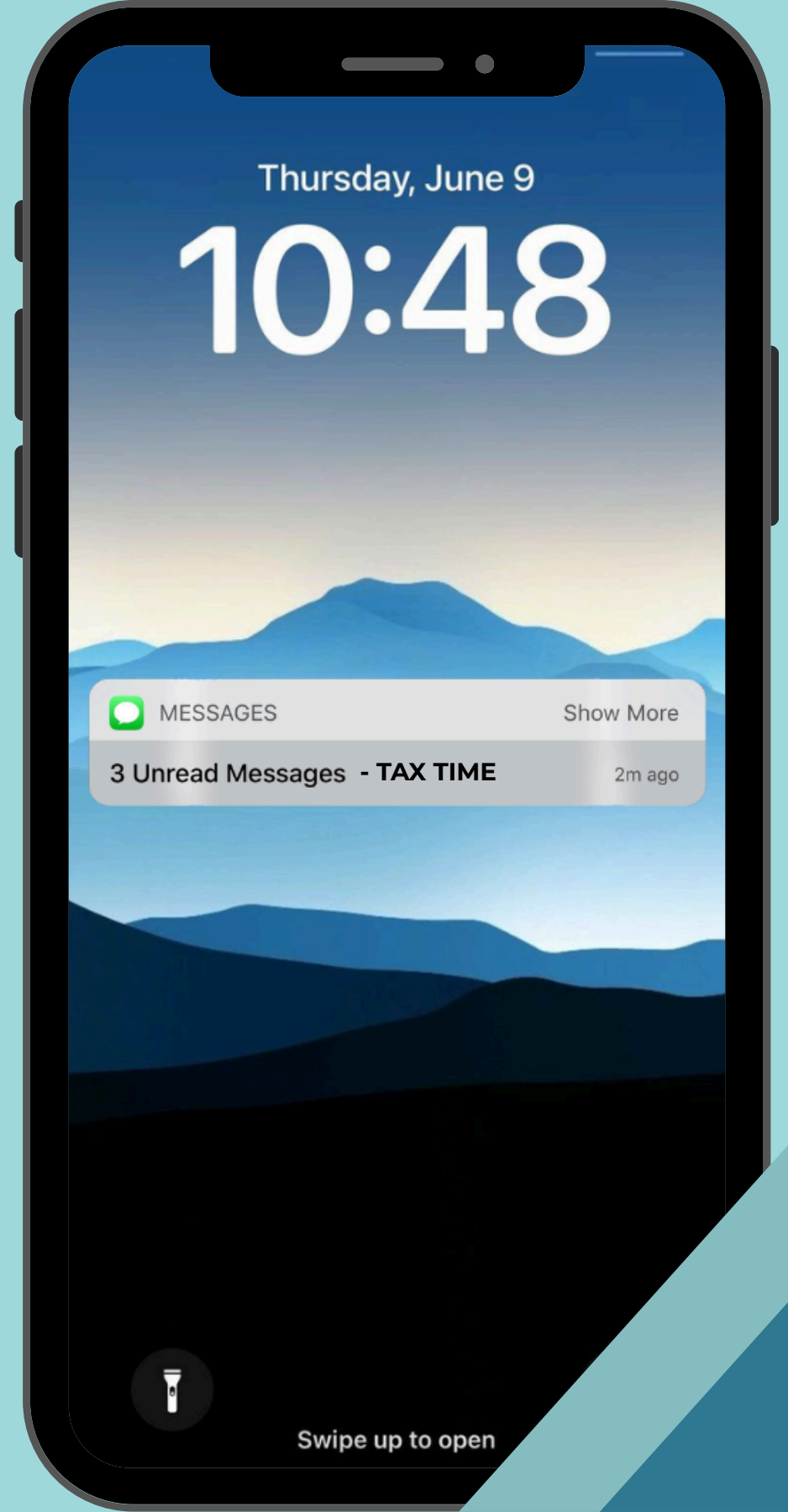


They won't...

# TEXT YOU ASKING FOR PERSONAL INFORMATION

If you get an SMS from the “ATO” asking for your TFN, bank details, or login codes — **it's a scam**. The ATO does not send links or request personal details via text.

1







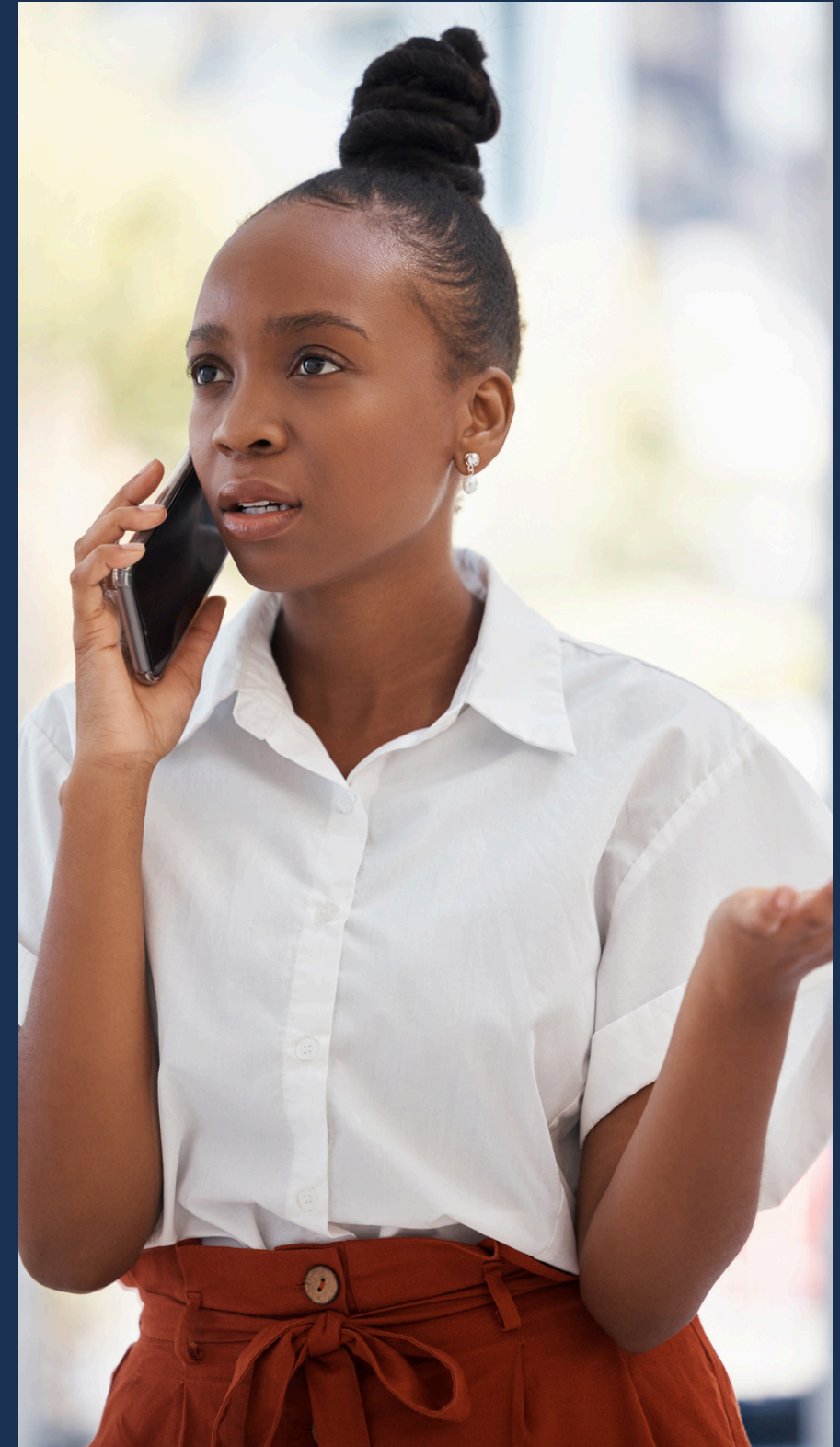
Phriendly  
Phishing

They won't...

## THREATEN YOU OVER THE PHONE

The ATO will never demand immediate payment or threaten arrest via phone call. If someone does - hang up and report it. It's a criminal.

2



They won't...

## ASK FOR PAYMENT VIA GIFT CARDS OR CRYPTO

No government agency, including the ATO, will ask for tax debts to be paid in Bitcoin, iTunes cards, or gift cards.

3







They won't...

## EMAIL FROM A LOOKALIKE DOMAIN

Legitimate ATO emails come through your online myGov account, so make sure your details are up to date, and MFA is in place.



4





They won't...

**RUSH YOU TO ACT  
IMMEDIATELY**

Scammers create urgency to make you panic. The ATO communicates through official channels, such as myGov, giving you time to review, verify, and respond.

## **TAX RETURN - ERROR DETECED**

From: Taxation Office <ATO@hzeak.in>



2025 Tax Return.pdf

Click on the attachment to view the error flagged on your Tax Return Report.

Please access the link to amend your details  
[www.taxreturn.hzeak.in](http://www.taxreturn.hzeak.in)

You have **24 hours to submit!**

Regards,

**Tax Senior Administrator**



\*Example of a Tax Return Phishing Email