How to Avoid Job Scams

WHAT IS A JOB SCAM?

A job scam is a fraudulent job posting or job offer that aims to entice the receiver into cooperating so the scammer can engage them in their scam to gain information or money.

The Purpose & Goal

Job scams can appear as phishing messages that promise a new job that seems too good to be true or be in the form of a fraudulent job posting enticing the job seeker to apply.

The goal of a job scam is to:
- Gain personal or banking information
- Receive monetary payment
- Install malware to your device

Staying Vigilant

1. Research the company and review the contact information listed carefully (Hiring Manager, e-mail, phone number)
2. Only respond to inquiries about jobs you have applied to
3. Be wary of job postings that offer lots up front and require no interview
4. Never provide your personal identification or financial information to a job posting (SIN, credit card, banking information)

SIGNS OF A JOB SCAM

- No experience necessary
- Job offered on the spot
- High starting salary
- Flexible, work-from home
- Asking for personal information
- Requesting payment up front (E.g. for training)
- Job posting is poorly written
- E-mail provider is free (Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail, AOL, etc.)
- Long distance phone number
Keep in Mind:

If a job seems too good to be true, it probably is.

Only use legitimate job search engines that you trust.

Research a company thoroughly and read job postings carefully.

Exercise diligence when looking at remote job postings specifically.

Never send any money or financial information online to get a job.

Government Resources

Job Scams & Protecting Yourself from Scams and Fraud
antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca

Competition Bureau Canada: Job and Employment Scams, How to Report Fraud and Scams in Canada
feddevontario.gc.ca

Report Spam - Canada’s Anti-Spam Legislation
fightspam.gc.ca

IF YOU SUSPECT YOU HAVE BEEN SCAMMED

• Report it to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre
• Contact your financial institution immediately if you provided any financial or banking information
• Close any e-mail accounts you used to communicate with the scammer
• Report the scam job posting to the job website so they can investigate
• If you found the job posting on OSCARplus, contact the on-campus department who posted the job
• Contact the local police if you were victim to any type of fraud

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