Spotting Fraudulent Employers/Postings

The UNLV Career Services staff thoroughly vets and screens employers and job postings within the Hire a Rebel site. However, it is still possible that some fraudulent listings will appear. It is important to be cautious and research opportunities prior to applying.

What Should I Watch Out for in Job Postings?

- The offer sounds too good to be true: While we know our Rebels are well-qualified and highly desirable, a position offering you $2,000 pay per week without leaving your home, is very questionable and likely a red flag.
- The posting includes spelling and grammatical errors: A few small mistakes are normal, but glaring errors should be a warning.
- The posting focuses on your potential high pay rather than describing job responsibilities.
- The salary range listed is very broad.
- Positions that appear to be traditional jobs, but then sound more like independent contractor positions.

How Do I Know When to be Suspicious?

- You’ve received an unsolicited email from an unknown employer offering you an internship or job: Always keep an accurate record of positions you’ve applied for as easy reference.
- If it’s difficult to find a business address, actual company contact, company name, etc.: Often times, this is an effort for businesses to attempt to be less visible.
- If the employer instantly replies to your application (without reviewing it at all) and/or offers to hire you without any type of interview.
- The position posted cannot be found listed on any other sites
- Companies looking for initial investments, typically via wire service or courier.
- Companies looking to send you funds, typically via wire service or courier, as start-up pay.
- Companies offering a reward in exchange for the use of your bank account.
- Employers that contact you via text message, rather than through email or phone call.
- Employers that contact you via phone, but the number does not permit call-backs.
- You are asked to provide a photo of yourself.
- Positions that appear to be traditional jobs, but then sound more like independent contractor positions.
How Can I Do More Research?

Look at the company’s website.

- Is there relevant/accurate content?: Oftentimes, scammers will create quick, basic web pages that seem legit at first glance, but lack any further depth or information upon a closer look.
- Are there job postings listed? Is the role you’d like to apply for listed?

Use Google.

- Do a quick search of the company’s name and the word “scam” if you are suspicious.

Use other resources to help verify.

- Better Business Bureau (http://www.bbb.org/us/consumers/)
- Hoovers (http://www.hoovers.com/)
- AT&T’s Anywho (https://www.anywho.com/whitepages)

What Do I Do if I Missed the Warning Signs and May Now be Involved in a Scam?

- Contact UNLV Career Services to report the issue and your concerns. Our staff is trained to assist in these situations and provide further resources. You may call us at 702-895-3495 or email at careerservices@unlv.edu.
- If you have sent money to a fraudulent employer and/or accepted money from them, contact your bank or credit card company to close the account and dispute the charges.
- If the incident occurred completely online, file an incident report with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) online at http://www.cybercrime.gov/ or by calling 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357).