

General Warning to Job Seekers

Job seekers should exercise caution when responding to online job listings. Scammers and impersonators are very clever and often make claims that sound legitimate, but in fact are not. Beware of job listings or potential job offers that:

- Require you to cash checks and then return a portion of the funds to the company or individuals.
- Ask for your passwords, bank account numbers, or other private information.
- Arrive via email that are not from a corporate email address or domain.
- Come from instant messaging or other chat tools, i.e., Google chat.
- If you are not sure about the legitimacy of an online ad or a job opportunity:
 - Contact the hiring company to find out what jobs are currently available
 - Visit the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) which has more information about common scams or frauds that target job seekers available on its website [<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0243-job-scams>]. The FTC has prepared a video explaining how to submit fraudulent activity to FTC personnel, which can be accessed at this link [<http://www.ftc.gov/video-library/index.php/video/how-to-file-a-complaint-with-the-federal-trade-commission/1402334828001>].
 - File a complaint with the FTC or other authorities. The FTC complaint form is available here [<https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/>]. Its complaint hotline number is 877-FTC-HELP (877-382-4357). Scams should also be reported to the FBI's Internet Fraud Complaint Center [<http://www.ic3.gov/>]. You can also report fraudulent job postings to the website or service where you found the posting.