AVOID JOB SCAMS!

Scams fall through the cracks regardless of how diligent a job site tries to keep them out. They've been around forever but are especially prevalent in today's economy.

BE WARY OF:

- Misspellings and grammatical errors in the company's advertisement.
- An email that is not a primary domain—they use a gmail or hotmail address.
- Requests for money.
- "Consultants" whose ads sound as if they're offering jobs but are actually selling information.
- Requests for your social security number.
- Requests for financial information such as your credit card or bank account number.
- Unsolicited emails.
- No specific job location.

DO YOUR RESEARCH:

- Google the company's name. Don't stop if you find their website and they look legit to you—do a search by the company's name and the word 'scam'.
- Is there contact information? A phone number? A person's name? A valid website?
- The Better Business Bureau and the Federal Trade Commission have sites where you can check to see if a company has been reported. Not finding complaints does not, however, guarantee that the company is legitimate.

NOTE:

- About.com reports that fraudulent companies are currently using the terms "sports marketing" and "entertainment marketing" to especially attract entry-level job seekers. The student ends up selling coupons door-to-door. Mystery shopping scams are also targeting recent grads.
- If you have any doubts at all, don't apply.
- Please do let us know if you think you've found a scam or have been victimized by a scam. Report it to the job site where you found the ad.