Avoiding Scams

While many job websites are safe, secure, and useful, there are also some scams that target job seekers on the Internet. Always be on the lookout for fraudulent sites or job postings, and use your best judgment before giving out your personal information.

Let’s look at some common “red flags” that can alert you that a job listing may be untrustworthy.
The job ad may promise something “too good to be true,” like a very high-paying work-from-home job.
The job application asks for too much information in the application process, like bank account numbers and social security numbers.
The website asks you to pay an upfront fee for a background check, deposit, or credit score.
The prospective employer is unwilling to meet in person or talk on the phone—they only want to communicate by email.

The online form asks you to fill in personal information, but does not supply a secure “https” connection in the URL.
The prospective employer will not provide verifiable information about the company, like a name, address, phone number, or website.

The prospective employer promises a job before even holding an interview.
How can you avoid these scams?  Let's look at some strategies and see what you think about them! Click your response, then click on submit for feedback and to move on.
Quiz Question: To avoid a scam, you should never apply for a job online.
(True/False, 10 points, 1 attempt permitted)

Correct Choice

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<td>X</td>
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Feedback when correct:
That's right! Although never applying for a job online would avoid scams, it also dramatically reduces your job opportunities!

Feedback when incorrect:
Whoops! Although never applying for a job online would avoid scams, it also dramatically reduces your job opportunities!

Notes:
True or False: To avoid a scam, you should never apply for a job online. Click Submit after you have made your selection.
Correct (Slide Layer)

To avoid a scam, you should never apply for a job online.

- True
- False

Correct

That's right! Although never applying for a job online would avoid scams, it also dramatically reduces your job opportunities!

Incorrect (Slide Layer)

To avoid a scam, you should never apply for a job online.

- True
- False

Incorrect

Whoops! Although never applying for a job online would avoid scams, it also dramatically reduces your job opportunities!
Quiz Question 2: To avoid a scam, you should read the posting carefully--including the fine print.
(True/False, 10 points, 1 attempt permitted)

Correct Choice
X True
False

Feedback when correct:
That's right! If you have doubts about the company, the fine print can help you make an informed decision.

Feedback when incorrect:
Whoops! If you have doubts about the company, the fine print can help you make an informed decision.

Notes:
True or False: To avoid a scam, you should read the posting carefully--including the fine print. Click Submit after you have made your selection.
To avoid a scam, you should read the posting carefully-including the fine print.

- True
- False

Correct

That's right! If you have doubts about the company, the fine print can help you make an informed decision.

Incorrect (Slide Layer)

To avoid a scam, you should read the posting carefully-including the fine print.

- True
- False

Incorrect

Whoops! If you have doubts about the company, the fine print can help you make an informed decision.

Continue
Quiz Question 3: To avoid a scam, check the website's URL to see if it sounds official.
(True/False, 10 points, 1 attempt permitted)

Correct Choice
X True
False

Feedback when correct:
That's right! Checking the URL is a good way to see who's behind the website.

Feedback when incorrect:
Whoops! Checking the URL is a good way to see who's behind the website.

Notes:
True or False: To avoid a scam, check the website's URL to see if it sounds official. Click Submit after you have made your selection.
Correct (Slide Layer)

To avoid a scam, check the website's URL to see if it sounds official.

- True
- False

Correct

That's right! Checking the URL is a good way to see who's behind the website.

Continue

Incorrect (Slide Layer)

To avoid a scam, check the website's URL to see if it sounds official.

- True
- False

Incorrect

Whoops! Checking the URL is a good way to see who's behind the website.

Continue
**Quiz Question 4: To avoid a scam, leave most of the fields blank on the job application.**  
(True/False, 10 points, 1 attempt permitted)

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**Feedback when correct:**  
That’s right! Some applications do have a few optional fields that can be left blank, but an application will not be accepted if required fields are left blank.

**Feedback when incorrect:**  
Whoops! Some applications do have a few optional fields that can be left blank, but an application will not be accepted if required fields are left blank.

**Notes:**  
True or False: To avoid a scam, leave most of the fields blank on the job application. Click Submit after you have made your selection.
Correct (Slide Layer)

To avoid a scam, leave most of the fields blank on the job application.

- True
- False

Correct

That's right! Some applications do have a few optional fields that can be left blank, but an application will not be accepted if required fields are left blank.

Incorrect (Slide Layer)

To avoid a scam, leave most of the fields blank on the job application.

- True
- False

Incorrect

Whoops! Some applications do have a few optional fields that can be left blank, but an application will not be accepted if required fields are left blank.
Quiz Question 5: To avoid scams, avoid clicking on advertisements.
(True/False, 10 points, 1 attempt permitted)

Correct Choice

<table>
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<th>Correct</th>
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<td>X</td>
<td>True</td>
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Feedback when correct:
That's right! Avoiding advertisements is a good idea, since advertisements can get you off track or point you to less trustworthy sources.

Feedback when incorrect:
Whoops! Avoiding advertisements is a good idea, since advertisements can get you off track or point you to less trustworthy sources.

Notes:
True or False: To avoid scams, avoid clicking on advertisements. Click Submit after you have made your selection.
To avoid scams, avoid clicking on advertisements.

- True
- False

Click submit at the bottom right once you have made your selection.

Correct

That's right! Avoiding advertisements is a good idea, since advertisements can get you off track or point you to less trustworthy sources.

Continue

Incorrect (Slide Layer)

To avoid scams, avoid clicking on advertisements.

- True
- False

Click submit at the bottom right once you have made your selection.

Incorrect

Whoops! Avoiding advertisements is a good idea, since advertisements can get you off track or point you to less trustworthy sources.

Continue
Quiz Question 6: To avoid scams, stick with websites and companies you have heard of before. If you haven't heard of it, do some research before sending them information.
(True/False, 10 points, 1 attempt permitted)

Feedback when correct:
That's right! Stick with reputable companies, but don't rule something out if you haven't heard of it. Do some research!

Feedback when incorrect:
Stick with reputable companies, but don't rule something out if you haven't heard of it. Do some research!

Notes:
True or False: To avoid scams, stick with websites and companies you have heard of before. If you haven't heard of it, do some research before sending them information. Click Submit after you have made your selection.
Correct (Slide Layer)

To avoid scams, stick with websites and companies you have heard of before. If you haven't heard of it, do some research before sending them information.

- True
- False

Correct

That's right! Stick with reputable companies, but don't rule something out if you haven't heard of it. Do some research!

Continue

Incorrect (Slide Layer)

To avoid scams, stick with websites and companies you have heard of before. If you haven't heard of it, do some research before sending them information.

- True
- False

Incorrect

Stick with reputable companies, but don't rule something out if you haven't heard of it. Do some research!

Continue
Remember, searching online is a great way to find out about job opportunities. For some jobs, it’s the only way to apply. Now that we’ve reviewed what to look out for and how to stay safe, Corey can be confident in his search and use his best judgment about where to apply.