

Employment scams have increased by 237%, with an average loss of £1420 by the jobseeker*.



** Figures based on analysis of relevant advance fee scams reported by Lloyds Banking Group customers, including customers of Lloyds Bank, Halifax and Bank of Scotland between January and June 2025.*

Don't get caught out.



www.getsafeonline.org



Most jobs are advertised and applied for online these days. The whole process is fast and convenient whether searching job sites, responding to job ads on social media, updating your CV, submitting your application or communicating with recruiters.



Employment scams, however, are commonplace and on the increase in the UK and around the world. And fraudsters' use of AI can make them more convincing than ever. If you fall for one, you could become a victim of financial or identity fraud, or even get a criminal record yourself. Make sure none of these happen to you, starting by reading our expert tips.

#SafeJobSeeking

Your safe jobseeking top tips

- Do your research to ensure job sites, employment agencies and prospective employers are reputable with a physical address and landline phone number. Use the free tools at www.getsafeonline.org/safejobseekertools
- When listing your profile, select the option of keeping it public, confidential or private according to your needs.
- If you receive an email claiming to be from a potential employer who has seen your CV on a job site, take care when clicking on links and ensure they go to a legitimate job posting.
- If you receive a text or WhatsApp message out of the blue telling you that you're an ideal match for a role, treat it with great caution.
- Bear in mind that many fraudulent job ads can be found on social media sites.
- Be wary of requests for up-front payment for CV services, DBS or other checks.
- Never divulge information such as NI, passport or driver's licence numbers, bank account/payment card information or date of birth. This could lead to identity theft. Supply these only when you've met the employer, landed the job and are satisfied that everything is legitimate.
- Devise and use strong, unique passwords and keep them protected.
- Don't call recruiters for telephone interviews, it could be an expensive premium rate number. Instead, make sure prospective employers call you.
- Be wary of ads that offer income for very little work or that seems too high to be true, tell you that you don't need any experience or pressure you to apply immediately. These could involve you in money laundering or muling.
- Don't conduct the entire process online: most genuine recruiters will require a face-to-face interview and that way, you can check them out too.



- Ensure that recruiters are genuine before meeting for an interview, to ensure that your personal safety isn't at risk.

If you are uncertain about a job advert or offer, or have encountered issues during your job, you can report it to JobsAware at www.jobsaware.co.uk. You can get direct help from a JobsAware advisor about whether a job or recruitment ad is likely to be genuine or not.

If you've been defrauded as a result of applying for a job, report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or on 0300 123 2040.



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Get Safe Online

Get Safe Online is the UK's leading source of information and advice on online safety and security, for the public and small businesses. It is a not-for-profit, public/private sector partnership backed by law enforcement agencies and leading organisations in internet security, banking and retail.

For more information and expert, easy-to-follow, impartial advice on safeguarding yourself, your family, finances, devices and workplace, visit www.getsafeonline.org

If you think you have been a victim of fraud, report it to Action Fraud at actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040. If you are in Scotland, contact Police Scotland on 101.



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