

Identifying Potential Internship Scams

Online job boards seem like a convenient way to find internship opportunities, but they also make it easy for scammers to get your contact information. Such a situation requires you to be more careful. Below are some signs that should make you leery of a job or internship posting.

Use the utmost care if a listing....

- **Asks for your bank account number** so that you can be paid.
- **Asks you to pay money** or to provide personal information (e.g., your social security number).
- **Asks you to buy equipment or supplies** before you can do the job.
- **Links to a generic e-mail address** (like Gmail, Hotmail, or Yahoo) not corporate or academic e-mail.
- **Requires no interview** or very little to no previous experience.
- **Came out of the blue** to your inbox or phone.
- **Doesn't list a recognizable department, university, or company.**
- **Sounds too good to be true!**

You can also check out a short video for identifying when an internship or job posting is suspicious. The video is provided by CandidCareer.com and is available on the University of Vermont website. The link to the page with the video is:

<https://www.uvm.edu/career/identifying-fraudulent-jobs-and-internships>

Sources:

<https://scl.cornell.edu/get-involved/career-services/jobs-and-internships/finding-positions/beware-job-and-internship-scams>

<https://www.uvm.edu/career/identifying-fraudulent-jobs-and-internships>