



Community Advisory: Employment Scam

Over the past week, several UCI students have reported being contacted by individuals posing as hiring managers and soliciting students with job opportunities. These "job opportunities" often take the form of "personal or office assistants" and frequently ask students to purchase items or deposit checks.

Most commonly, the scam artist instructs the student to deposit an issued check into their personal checking account while subsequently requesting the student to purchase items or send money to the scammer. After a few days, the student discovers the scammer's check bounces, leaving them liable for the funds they withdrew or transferred derived from the fraudulent check. The student is also being asked to provide personal information about themselves (address, Social Security number, bank information, etc.) that is eventually used for identity theft.

Be cautious if the email or job posting...

- Does not list a company name.
- Comes from an email address that doesn't match the company name (most legitimate companies will use the company domain instead of a Hotmail, Yahoo, or Gmail account).
- Offers to pay a large amount of money for almost no work.
- Offers you a job without ever interacting with you or interviewing you.
- Asks you to pay an application fee.
- Wants you to transfer money from one account to another.
- Offers to send you a check before you do any work.
- Asks you to provide your credit card or bank account numbers.
- Asks for copies of personal documents.
- Says you must send payment by wire service or courier.
- Sends you an unexpectedly large check.

For more information regarding employment scams, please visit www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0243-job-scams

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jorge Cisneros".

Jorge Cisneros, Chief