

WNMU Students,

We wanted to make you aware of potential hiring scams targeting college. These scams are typically to obtain money, personal information, or both. These scams are often conducted online for persons who want to work from home.

Please beware of the following hiring scams:

- An official-looking job offer that requires giving personal financial information (supposedly for direct deposit).
- A request for your driver's license, Social Security number, ID card and/or bank account number.
- The person recruiting may pressure the applicant for the information before they answer your questions about the job. If identity information was given, go to [IdentityTheft.gov](https://www.identitytheft.gov) to see what steps to take, including how to monitor your credit.
- Real employers do not ask for that kind of information before they have actually interviewed and hired the applicant for a job.

How do you know if the job offer is a scam?

- Look at the sender's email address. Is the email from a business or a personal email like @gmail.com or @yahoo.com, or similar?
- Requests for personal information before the interview. Your personal information might be the focus of your interview.
- Check out the recruiter online by searching for their name and company.
- Type the name of the company with words like "scam" or "complaint."
- Check the name of the company under the Better Business Bureau site under the "Scam Tracker" and choose "Look Up a Scam"
www.bbb.org/scamtracker.
- Call the business and ask to speak with their Human Resource associate to verify that the job posting is an actual available job. Scams sometimes use the name of a legitimate business.

Identify a scam after being offered a job:

- Employer asks that you buy a laptop and/or other equipment for the job. Employer may say this expense will be reimbursed on your first paycheck.
- Employer may ask that you to pay certain fees for application or similar.
- Employer may ask you to send the money via Cash App, Zelle App, etc., or cash if face-to-face.

- Regarding reimbursement, employer may send you a fake check to cover the cost that your bank will reject.
- Employer may offer to send a check for an amount over what you paid and ask you to return the full amount so they can send you a corrected check.

What to do if you paid a scammer:

- No matter how you paid; immediately contact the company you used to send the money to report the fraud and ask to have the transaction reversed, if possible.
- Report the scam to the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/ReportFraud).
- File a police report and keep a copy for your records.
- Call your bank immediately and notify them of the issue.

Disclaimer: Please be aware that the University is not responsible for the details of off-campus employment, such as wages, safety, working conditions or fraudulent postings. We do our best to review the postings for issues, but we also ask students to be very cautious, use common sense, and avoid sharing personal and/or financial information or paying application or other fees.