



Protecting Yourself from Fraudulent Positions

Though all positions posted in Handshake are reviewed by our staff, **we cannot guarantee the integrity of every job posting**. Students and alumni are responsible for performing necessary due diligence and taking precautions when responding to a job posting, interviewing or accepting positions and each student/alumnus is responsible for obtaining necessary information concerning the employer.

If you have any doubts or concerns about possible fraudulent behavior, **notify the Career Development Center as soon as possible**: E-mail: career@mtsu.edu

In addition to Handshake, scammers are often able to access lists of MTSU student emails. Please look at these tell-tale signs of fraud, forward the email to Career Services, and delete immediately.

Be aware that fraudulent job postings exist and be cautious of any employer or job posting that:

- Asks for your financial information such as credit card or bank account numbers
- Does not have an e-mail that matches the company domain (i.e. they use live, gmail, yahoo, or similar e-mail addresses)
- Requires an initial financial investment
- Promises you a large payment or reward in return for processing financial transactions
- Asks you to send payment by wire service, courier or cashier's check
- Does not provide a phone number or when you call the phone number, no one answers
- Posts a job that is overly vague or engages in "double speak"
- Promises to get rich quick with little effort, work from home, etc. Remember, if it sounds too good to be true...
- Offers a "virtual" position and you never have the opportunity to meet them
- Offers you a position simply by having you reply to the posting without interviewing you
- Is poorly written and contains grammar and spelling errors
- "Baits and switches" a position, meaning they post a legitimate sounding position then follow up with you asking you to engage in questionable activity different than what was listed

Additional articles about fraudulent/scam employment:

- Federal Trade Commission: <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0243-job-scams>
- Tennessee Division of Consumer Affairs publication: Don't Get Scammed!: <http://www.tn.gov/attorneygeneral/cpro/dontgetscammed.pdf>

Web sites to check for scam reports:

- Rip Off Report: www.ripoffreport.com
- Riley Guide: www.rileyguide.com/scams/html
- Better Business Bureau: <http://www.bbb.org/>
- Conduct an Internet search using the organization's name and the word "scam" to see what comes up

Filing a consumer complaint:

- Tennessee Consumer Affairs Division: <http://www.tn.gov/consumer/complaint.shtml>
- Tennessee Attorney General's Office: <http://www.tn.gov/attorneygeneral/cpro/filecomplaint.html>
- Federal Trade Commission: <https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/#crnt>
- Local Law Enforcement Agencies

Examples of Recent Scams

SCAM – Corporate Service Company

- Corporate Service Company is a real organization; ScamGuard.com finds multiple instances of these emails, and warn of the high risk of identity theft when replied to.
- Vague details with high pay
- Asking for personal information
- Incorrect grammar, run-on language

From: CORPORATE SERVICE COMPANY <sorenseninga70@gmail.com>

Date: February 9, 2018 at 4:19:59 PM CST

To: undisclosed-recipients;

Subject: PER TIME JOB FOR STUDENT / 250 WEEKLY

Do you want to earn extra cash weekly? We are offering a part time online job that allows you work from home or school and you can earn 250 weekly, each task can be completed in 30 minutes at your convenient time and it will not affect your school schedule. If you would like to learn more about this job opportunity, you can get back to us with:

Your alternative email:

Your cell number:

We look forward to reading from you.

Sincerely,

Sorensen Inga (*Texas Service Rep Unit*)

TX CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY

211 E. 7th Street, Suite 620

Austin, TX 78701

Tel: (512) 710-9052

Email: sorenseninga70@gmail.com

SCAM – Fluor Procurement Services

- Fluor Procurement Services is a real organization; their website has a [page](#) warning of these fraudulent offers.
- Vague details with high pay
- Notice the grammar in the email and the odd subject line.
- Specifying work in the “States” and payment in “US Dollars”

From: FLUOR PROCUREMENT SERVICES <globalcorp858@gmail.com>
Date: February 9, 2018 at 11:24:24 AM CST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Short term job vacancy

Hello

Apply and if qualified gain the chance to be part of our casual job.
Work for one hour

twenty minutes daily, three times weekly. Jobs are done on - line(at
convenience)

within the campus or any location within the States

Weekly pay ranges from 162 to 180 US Dollars

For application requirement and additional information, reply.

Sarah Moore

Procurement unit

Below are 2 examples of a national scam email that was recognized by the FBI in January 2017. Notice that these are 2 real companies, but with fake Gmail accounts. The contents of the emails are almost identical.

From: Vivian Schaedel <vivy777sch@gmail.com>
Date: September 8, 2017 at 1:40:16 PM CDT
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: PART TIME JOB OFFER; CISCOsystems

Dear Student,

You are selected from your school database to be among the selected participants in this work offer. I'm happy to inform you that our reputable company CISCO Systems® in conjunction with PATHWAY is currently running a student empowerment program. This program is to help loyal and hardworking students like you secure a part time job which does not deter you from doing any other job, You just need a few hours to do this weekly with an attractive weekly salary/wages inclusive.

KINDLY REPLY WITH YOUR PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESS IF INTERESTED IN THIS JOB POSITION IN ORDER TO GET IN CONTACT WITH YOU.

Thanks.

Kind Regards,

Vivian Schaedel
HR Recruit Manager/Consultant
CISCOsystems®

From: Laura Gauge <lauragauge44@gmail.com>
Date: September 12, 2017 at 6:34:11 PM CDT
To: undisclosed-recipients:;
Subject: MTSU PAID JOB OFFER

Dear Student,

We got your contact through your school database and I'm happy to inform you that our reputable company CORESTAFF SERVICES Inc®, is currently running a student empowerment programme. This programme is to help loyal and hardworking students like you secure a part time job which does not deter you from doing any other, you just need a few hours to do this weekly and with an attractive weekly salary.

KINDLY EMAIL BACK WITH YOUR PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESS IF INTERESTED IN THIS JOB POSITION.

Kind Regards,

Laura Gauge,
HR Manager/Consultant
CORESTAFF SERVICES Inc®

SCAM - AGCO Example:

- AGCO is a legitimate company. However, the contact is fraudulent and does not actually work for the company.
- This is a “bait-and-switch” position in that the follow-up was for a position that was different from the original posting; it was from a Hotmail account; it involved money transactions; the language isn’t quite right; it is vague as to the actual business; and it is high pay for doing very little work.

From: agco.corporation@hotmail.com
Subject: RE: Non-OCR Resume Submitted

Dear Applicant,

My name is Tyler Kenney from AGCO CORP, i link suppliers who have been personally tested to buyers and stand for 100%. I source for buyers and suppliers at the same time so I can link them to make mine and the company's profits. On every actual purchase made, I have a 20% profit .I source for buyers and suppliers within and outside the United States of America. I am constantly on the move organizing seminars to bring buyers and suppliers together. I need someone that can complete billings, invoicing and payments on my behalf and get them to the vendors, as well as to be on deck to receive payments from my buyers, so the linking is effective and immediate.

The only way I am entitled to the 20% payment is, if the actual deal is concluded through me.. When suppliers and buyers go head to head, I am at a loss as they can transact directly with one another without my knowledge. This position offers you 10%, you're offered a very good pay as transactions are steady, continuous and constant. An average transaction is for \$2,000.00 and over and you can handle as many as 3 transactions in a week as most payments are made in installment. The pay is good enough to encourage you to work hard and be efficient while it's more than enough for me to stay in business while encouraging me to source harder and link more. I travel a lot and when buyers want to make purchase, when I'm on company errand, he/she has to hold-on till I return, to place an order, on the long term. The effect is our customers start sourcing for suppliers on their own, so having an assistant/representative easily reachable has its numerous advantages. We have lost too many deals due to this and I'm trying to put an end to it.

The best form of payment used are Business checks and direct bank transfers they are readily available and confirmed on the spot, they are not the only means used but they are the best for our process. Most of the buyers we work with are those we've previously handled successful transactions with, new buyers are verified and confirmed before the linking process occurs. You have nothing to worry about. The mode of operation is as follows; you receive the payment directly from the individual buyer, in your mail, usually via ups and have them cashed. You send the payment to our suppliers/vendors when I need you to, or directly to the company and your pay is 10% of the amount sent to you. All charges during cashing, sending of payments and transaction completion will be deducted from the balance after you've gotten your pay and not deducted from your pay so your pay is fixed on the amount cashed per transaction. You can handle as many as 3 or more transactions per week, but you'll be handling one (1) initially to see how efficiently and how quickly you can carry out the completion.

On 3 transactions you're sure of nothing less than \$600 weekly. The hours are flexible and you can decide when you want to work as what you'll be doing initially is cashing the payments and completing the transaction to the supplier. I don't need you online 24/7, just to be online on a daily basis and at least check your e-mail regularly. Working with me will also not disturb your other jobs, (If you have any) as I require that applicant only have easy access to the internet, be reachable easily and respond/carry out instructions sent as soon as possible.

Please show your continued interest in this position by sending me the following info.

First Name:

Last Name:

Mailing Address {No P o box}:

City: State:

Zip Code:

Mobile Phone #:

Contact Phone #:

Alternative Contact e-mail:

Regards,
Tyler Kenney
ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT
AGCO CORP

SCAM - The Stones River Property Management Example:

- Notice the contact person's email address; when visiting the real organization's website, all contact emails are "@stonesriverpm.com." "myofficemail01" is not a professional email address.
- No employee contact information is given.
- Stones River Property Management is a real organization. This person is not affiliated with them and this is a scam.

Posted 1/28/2016

Stones River Property Management

Office Assistant

Address: 2122 N Thompson Lane Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Website: <http://www.stonesriverproperties.com>

Organization Overview: Serving Middle Tennessee for over 20 years, Stones River Property Management, INC. is a full service, turn-key real estate company specializing in investment and rental properties. We manage many properties including single family homes, commercial office space, apartment complexes, gated communities, equestrian and more. Our office staff includes licensed real estate agents with years of market expertise and knowledge, a full service accounting team, maintenance coordinator/inspector and office administrator to meet your real estate needs. Ron Hodges began to build the business that would become Stones River Property Management, INC. in 1992. Ron has developed the business that is now one of the largest property management companies in the Middle Tennessee area by assembling an exceptional team of professionals to better serve you and all of your property management needs.

Position Description We are looking for a college student as a PART TIME office assistant for a fast paced office. Quick Books duties: Inputting bills, paying invoices, filing paperwork, data entry & reconciling American Express statements into the correct expense lines. Flexible schedule as we can work around yours. However, We will need two days a week during the Monday-Friday work week. In a perfect world you would work 11am-5pm two days a week on Tuesday & Thursday. **RULES ON REPLYING TO THIS POST:** - Include a short bio about yourself. - Include your full name & cell number. - Let me know where you go to School & what days/times your available to work. Serious inquiries ONLY.

Minimum Qualifications: - Junior or Senior in college or Graduate PREFERRED* - Assisting Manager/Owners in an office setting. - MUST be proficient in QUICK BOOKS. - Must be able to work 15-20 hours a week- hours/times are flexible.

Application Instructions: Please submit your resume to: myofficemail01@propertymgmnc.org

Desired Start Date: ASAP

Position Location: Murfreesboro, TN

Position Type: part time

Salary Type: Hourly

Wage Amount: \$15