

## Job Scams

The ad promises to help you get a good-paying job, but how do you know it's not a con artist doing a job on you?

- **Don't pay a fee upfront.** Most legitimate employment agencies don't charge unless they actually succeed in getting you a job, and often it's the new employer who pays.
- **Know exactly what services are being offered.** The company may only provide advice or help writing a resume. Some fraudulent employment services simply sell lists of companies that they have gotten from public directories. They may not have contacted those companies directly or know if there are really any job openings.
- **Get all promises in writing.** It's difficult to prove what someone told you if it's not part of a written agreement.
- **Be wary of promises to help get you a government job.** If a test is required, the government usually conducts it. No employment service can guarantee that you'll qualify for a government job or arrange to get you special treatment.
- **Money-back guarantees may not be worth the paper they're written on.** Fraudulent employment services will use an endless string of excuses for why you're not entitled to a refund.
- **Do your own research.** Use the public library, newspapers, the Internet, and your state employment office to find the job that's right for you.