Looking for a new job can be very exciting. It may be your first job, or you may be looking to change your career. You can search for that new career opportunity with just a click of a button. Unfortunately, there seems to be just as many scams as there are real job openings. Keep these tips in mind to reduce your chances of becoming the victim of a job scam.

**Resumes and Red Flags**

**You receive a job offer that you did not apply for**—Scammers often send unsolicited correspondence stating that they have a job offer for you. They may request that you send personal information in order to get started.

**No need for an interview, your hired!**—If you’ve received an email stating that you’ve been hired and you have not had a formal interview or have not had a discussion with the “employer,” do not trust the source.

**Pay us, then we’ll pay you**—Legitimate companies and organizations looking to hire will not request money to hire you. Never send money or provide any type of personal, Social Security, or banking information.

**Make $6,000 in one week from home**—Avoid the enticement of listings claiming you can get rich quick, or promising an extremely high salary for little work. Remember if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

**Find Out if the Listing is Legit**

**Use search engines**—If you are unsure about a company, search for the company online and also add words such as "scam" or "rip off" next to the company’s name. This will give you information on whether the company is legitimate.

**Click here to learn more about your new job!**—Scammers may attempt to run an unauthorized download on your computer in order to access your personal information and identity by providing you with a link for more information about the position.

**Visit the BBB**—Log onto the Better Business Bureau’s website to see if any complaints have been filed against a company.

**Federal Jobs**—When applying for federal jobs, the only source that you should trust is www.usajobs.gov. All federal jobs are announced to the public.

For more information on job scams and other crime prevention tips, log onto www.ncpc.org/Smarter.