



Don't Fall for Health Frauds

Scammers are targeting potential job applicants.

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National HIV care provider Vivent Health has issued a warning regarding scammers falsely claiming to be recruiters for the company.

The nonprofit offers health care and social services, such as HIV prevention, testing, education, mental health support, nutrition counseling and housing support.

According to Vivent, scammers are contacting potential “candidates” with job offer letters and requesting personal data, such as banking information. Vivent Health urges individuals not to fall for job scams, explaining, “Vivent Health will never make an offer to a candidate without first going through an interviewing process, which includes live interviews with our HR and hiring teams at Vivent Health.”

The general public should be alert to potential frauds and schemes. Online scammers use several methods to coerce money or information from people, often pretending to be from an organization you know, pressuring you to act immediately to fix an urgent problem or even threatening to arrest you. Scammers may also insist you pay them using specific methods, including gift cards, bank wires or mobile payment apps, according to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

To avoid a scam, block all unwanted calls, text messages and emails immediately. Do not share personal or financial information in response to a request you did not expect. Do not feel pressured to act right away, no matter how urgent scammers may make the matter seem. Finally, before making any decisions, ask someone you trust for advice. Talking things over with a friend, neighbor or family member could help you identify a scam.

Unfortunately, health fraud scams can be committed by medical providers, patients and other people who intentionally deceive the health care system to receive illegal benefits or payments.

If you were scammed or are aware of a scam, go to ReportFraud.ftc.gov to inform the FTC.