



BBB® Employment Scam Study

In 2020, BBB estimated job scams had **14 million victims** with **\$2 billion in losses.**

Victims

67%
COMPLAINTS
BY FEMALES



MOST COMMON AGES
25-34

MEDIAN LOSSES
\$1,000



Identity Theft Risk

34% of victims provided their driver's license number

25% provided their Social Security or Social Insurance numbers

Fake Checks

36% of job scam complaints to BBB involved a fake check

50% of FTC fake check complaints involve job scams

\$1.3 billion losses absorbed by banks, up 40% in the two years since BBB's 2018 fake check fraud study

Fake checks used in:

- ✓ Mystery shopping or secret shopper job scams
- ✓ Car wrap job scams
- ✓ Nanny or caregiver job scams
- ✓ Job offers to small businesses, including wedding or other photography or painting houses

65% of scam job offers involved reshipping

Source: 2020 Employment Scam Report, BBB Institute for Marketplace Trust

How the scam works.

Scammers:

- “Hire” victims from job boards, Facebook or Craigslist
- Promise as much as \$2,500 to receive and then send on packages
- Use stolen credit card numbers and the victim’s address to order laptops, cell phone and high end goods
- Provide shipping labels to send repackaged goods to a new address—some in Russia
- Fail to pay victims; often steal their identities
- Put victims at risk of fines or possible jail time

For complete report, visit [BBB.org/jobscams](https://www.bbb.org/jobscams)

Report scams on

