

The Scam Checklist

“**Buyer Beware!**” should be the watchwords when looking for telecommuting jobs online. Remember that if it sounds too good to be true it probably is. Remember also that you are applying for a real job. This means you should expect to see all the things you would normally expect from a job listing and be expected to apply for a job just as you would if you were going through traditional application channels.

Bearing this in mind, here are some suggested items you should either take as warning signs or expect to see in a job posting when looking for a legitimate telecommuting job.

POSITIVE FACTOR

- +** Do they ask for a resume or application?
- +** Do they provide the kind of information that you would see in a classified ad?
- +** Do they provide an email address, fax or phone number?
- +** If they ask for money do they explain the refund policy?
- +** Do they explain the skills you would need for the job?
- +** Do they explain the job responsibilities?

WARNING!

- ⊘** Do they ask you for money or an investment?
- ⊘** Is it clearly a mass email?
- ⊘** Do they convey a sense of urgency, e.g., you must act now?
- ⊘** Do they make unreasonable promises?
- ⊘** Does it sound too good to be true?
- ⊘** Are you asked to e-mail for more information?
- ⊘** Does the ad start with “Work at Home”?
- ⊘** Do they give a range of how much money you can make?
- ⊘** Do they expect you to pay for a list of jobs?
- ⊘** Do they expect you to invest in equipment or software?
- ⊘** Does the ad “sell” the job?