

How to talk to patrons about: *Safely Applying for Jobs Online*

- If a job listing is not on an official company website, take care with sharing your personal information. You may want to take some extra steps to verify the job ad is legitimate and not just a scam to get your information or money.
- If the online application does not use https, you may not want to submit sensitive information through it. Instead, call the company to ask about (1) whether you need to submit that information and (2) whether you can provide it through an alternate channel.

“It’s important to always think about securing the personal information you share online, even on something that seems safe like a job application.”



Safely Applying for Jobs Online

Many job applications ask for a lot of personal information. Here are some steps you can take to protect that information from harm when applying for jobs online.



- Be careful when responding to job ads on social media, Craigslist, or job boards. It’s harder to verify the employer’s identity and could be a scam.
- If you’re asked to submit personal information like your social security number, address, or date of birth, make sure the site uses HTTPS, which means your data will be encrypted.
- Sometimes application forms ask for information that’s not needed for hiring like your social security number. If you’re uncomfortable submitting this information online, call the company and ask if it’s necessary and if you can submit it separately.
- Don’t share your social media login information in your application. Requesting this is illegal in Maryland and many other states!