

SCAM SCENARIO: JOB/EMPLOYMENT

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1▶

An individual is contacted by a recruiter through a social media website for a position at a new startup company. The recruiter tells the individual his resume is a great fit for the growing company and an interview is not needed. Using the link provided by the recruiter, the individual completes a job application that requires his name, address, Social Security number and bank account details to set up direct deposit. The candidate receives an acceptance email to confirm his start date.

2▶

As part of the onboarding process, the recruiter instructs the individual to purchase computer equipment through a specific vendor website and states the cost will be reimbursed.



3▶

The individual sends a \$4,500 payment from his account to the equipment vendor as part of the purchasing process. When the equipment does not arrive within a week, the individual emails the recruiter, who responds that there is a two-week delay in shipping. When the equipment again is not received, emails sent to the recruiter for an update are now returned as "undeliverable."

4▶

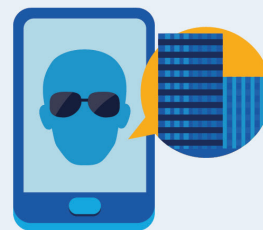
The individual contacts the startup company directly and is told there is no record of the job application and the company would never require an employee to purchase his own equipment. The job offer was a scam. The individual was deceived into making a payment and sharing personal information through the online application.

CLASSIFICATION: SCAM

AUTHORIZED
PAYMENT

RELATIONSHIP
AND TRUST

BUSINESS
IMPOSTOR



The scams mitigation toolkit was developed by the Federal Reserve to help educate the industry about scams and outline potential ways to help detect and mitigate this fraud type. Insights for this toolkit were provided through interviews with industry experts, publicly available research, and team member expertise. This toolkit is not intended to result in any regulatory or reporting requirements, imply any liabilities for fraud loss, or confer any legal status, legal definitions, or legal rights or responsibilities. While use of this toolkit throughout the industry is encouraged, utilization of the toolkit is voluntary at the discretion of each individual entity. Absent written consent, this toolkit may not be used in a manner that suggests the Federal Reserve endorses a third-party product or service.