

How to Tell the Difference between a Work-At-Home Scam and the Real Deal

Not every work-at-home opportunity is a scam. Unfortunately, scam artists have ruined the reputation of the home-based revenue generation industry and hurt those opportunities that are bone fide. The at-home business is a solid and reputable way of working, if you get involved in legitimate jobs. Millions of people make a living working from home. But at the same time, plenty of people have gotten roped into fraudulent scams, where promises of easy money without any effort prove to be untrue. Avoid being taken advantage of by carefully considering these points when deciding on a work-at-home opportunity.

How to tell if a Work-From-Home Opportunity is a Scam

In this day of empty promises and spinning sales pitches, it is difficult to sort through the scams to find true opportunities to put your skills to work for you. While it might seem like all work-from-home jobs are fraudulent, that simply is not true. Here are seven of the most important pointers to consider before becoming involved in a work-from-home program.

1. Do your homework by researching the work-at-home opportunity; be sure to check with the Better Business Bureau, too.
2. You should never be asked to pay money to make money. You should be getting paid, not the other way around.
3. A legit opportunity will not be sent to you via mass email that ends up in your spam folder. This is not how businesses recruit employees.
4. Beware of real job boards or the newspaper want ads. Scammers take advantage of the false sense of security provided by the publisher.
5. Get recommendations from friends or people you trust about real job options.
6. Real jobs won't pressure you to act fast and make a quick decision.
7. In a true work-from-home job you will have to work in order to make money. "Do nothing and make cash" offers, "Get rich quick" programs, and "too-good-too-be-true" income are usually scams.

What Makes a Work-At-Home Job the "Real Deal?"

You will need to do work in order to be paid, because as the old adage tells us, "You can't get something for nothing." Unless you will be investing in money that will make you money – and even

then you need to actively participate in the investing process –you will need to do something that others find valuable enough to pay you to do. The options are endless in exactly what that could be; it could range from professional services, to a product, to a speculation venture.

Consider the number of people that would choose to work at home if they could and the limited number of real home-based employment jobs out there. It's not a match. This doesn't mean that you can't find the perfect job for you; it just means that you might have to look carefully to find it.

Questions to Ask When Finding the Perfect Work-From-Home Employment

When researching a work-at-home opportunity, ask questions to find out if the answers make sense to you. The best way to start your investigation of a company is to find out how this opportunity would operate, if you were to work with the company. Ask:

- How will I be paid (commission, hourly, salary or other method) and how is payment issued?
- What kind of work will I be doing? Never pay for flimsy start-up packets, kits, or contact lists.
- Do you have references? Any real company would be happy to give you names of people that have had positive work experiences.
- Will I only get paid if other people sign up? If your pay is dependant on other people purchasing the products or signing up, it's probably not worth the effort.
- Who will my customers be? For example, if you are considering processing claims for at-home work, ask first who the clients are and contact one to determine if the market is real.

With a bit of skepticism and caution, you can find a rewarding and profitable career working from home.