

Dunecrest American school in Dubai Job SCAM

Omar is very good friend of mine with 10 plus years of experience in the education field. Omar applied earlier this year through nakurigulf.com for multiple education related field, however, does not recall having Zoom, Team, or any face-to-face interview with **Dunecrest American School**. This email he received for job letter seemed genuine at first with few questions in mind, but later realized how BIG of a SCAM it was. Fortunately, no payment was made to the scammers, and he was able to walk away.

Here is screenshot of who it was sent from and what the body of the email contains.

From: Dunecrest American School <job.dunecrest@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jun 12, 2022 at 7:03 AM
Subject: Re: Dunecrest American School Dubai - Questionnaire E-Interview

Congratulations! following the completion of your job application and educational qualification, we are pleased to confirm that you have been selected to work for DUNECREST AMERICAN SCHOOL DUBAI - UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

We are delighted to make you to following offer in this position on our team, based on your previous work experience and your impressive educational accomplishments.

Please find attached herewith, is the port type of your Employment Letter which contains the Terms and Conditions of your Contract Package for your perusal and approval. On your review and acceptance of this Contract Package, sign on the last page and send back to us a scanned copy of the Acceptance (Last) Page by email.

However, you have to contact ABAL TRAVEL & TOURISM DUBAI - UAE for the acquisition of your UAE Work/Residence Permit Papers which will enable you to legally live and work in United Arab Emirates Also send the signed Copy of the Acceptance page to the Travel Agency, through their contact details below:

ABAL TRAVEL & TOURISM DUBAI (UAE)
Head Office - Deira
Golden Business Centre, 5th floor Office 402,
Port Saeed Airport Road, Deira Dubai
P.O. Box: 41775, Dubai,
United Arab Emirates
Phone: +971 5 8823 6203
E-mail: info@abaltravel.com
E-mail: abaltravels@gmail.com
Website: www.abaltravel.com
HEAD OF VISA/PERMITS OPERATIONS

CONTACT PERSON: MR. JACK WILSON

The hard copies of your Contract documents have been forward to ABAL TRAVEL & TOURISM DUBAI - UAE, who shall solicit on the preparation of your Working Visa Resident Permit from the Authorities here in UAE. The same will be sent to you through courier service after all formalities have been accomplished with the UAE Authorities here in United Arab Emirates. This is in line with the Expatriate Statutory Law of United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Keep us up to date with the process between you and the travel agency in case of advice where necessary, and ensure you provide them their requirements quickly for the fastest process from their office. Also remember that any expense you make for the processing of your UAE Residence/Work Permit Papers shall be refunded back to you immediately you submit your expenses report/receipt to us via email.

NOTIFICATION FOR ELABORATION PROGRAM

Upon your arrival to United Arab Emirates, DXB International Airport Dubai, you shall be received at the Airport by our delegates. Also there will be a mandatory workers orientation / elaboration training program, organized for all workers by the management to orient newly employed staff about the School, the Executives, Departments, and more on your job duties. This will take place within the Premises of DUNECREST AMERICAN SCHOOL DUBAI - UNITED ARAB EMIRATES., and this Program will start 10 days on arrival for work sign-on.

It is of very importance that your make sure your participate on the elaboration program which is scheduled to commence on your stipulated joining date. This means you should be able to relocated before your states joining date.

ELABORATION PROGRAM NUMBER

Your assigned Elaboration Program Number for the 2022- DUNECREST AMERICAN SCHOOL DUBAI - UNITED ARAB EMIRATES training program is 0803218.

We at DUNECREST AMERICAN SCHOOL DUBAI - UNITED ARAB EMIRATES congratulates you today on your success emergence and look forward to welcoming you aboard

Should you require more information, please feel free to contact the HR Manager immediately.

Congratulations! On your appointment.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Pat Hould (HR/Recruitment Manager)

DUNECREST AMERICAN SCHOOL
P.O. Box 624265, Wadi Al Safa 3
(next to Al Barari), Dubai,
United Arab Emirates
Tel: +971 5 8203 9855
Email: hr@dunecresta.com
Email: careers@dunecresta.com
Website: www.dunecresta.com

As you per the email you can see Omar is “**Selected to work at Dunecrest American School**” in Dubai, and an offer has been made. Please increase the size of the document to view the email properly.

Now let’s have a careful look at the email, and these are my observations, you might find more.

- 1) If this is true education system, why is the email being sent from gmail.com and not their domain?
- 2) They also suggest we contact the Abal Travel & Tourism agency to get our “**Work/Residence Permit Papers which will enable you to legally live and work in United Arab Emirates**”. Further in the email, it states “**Also remember that any expense you make for the processing of your UAE Residence/Work Permit Papers shall be refunded back to you immediately you submit your expenses report/receipt to us via email.**” Seems a little fishy, should this be the case, employer would be responsible for your visa fee, or any other fee, the fact they mentioned they will reimburse you, that tells us it’s a SCAM. Keep reading it get more suspicious.
- 3) Look carefully at the last signature of the email “**Website: www.dunecresta.com**”. Woah! I thought this was **DUNECREST** American School not **DUNECRESTA** American School. Could this be a typo? Let us look further.
- 4) If you google Dunecrest American school or even Dunecrest itself, you will see the following below. The domain is (dot) .ae not (dot) .com. United Arab Emirates is (dot) .ae domain. This is getting more and more skeptical but let’s keep digging.

The screenshot shows a Google search for 'dunecrest'. The search bar at the top contains 'dunecrest' with a search icon. Below the search bar, there are tabs for 'All', 'Maps', 'Images', 'Shopping', 'News', and 'More'. The search results show 'About 182,000 results (0.54 seconds)'. The first result is 'https://www.dunecrest.ae' with a link to 'Home - Dunecrest American School in Dubai'. The description of the school states: 'Dunecrest American School in Dubai offers a holistic and challenging standards-based American educational program with an IB Diploma option in Grades 11 and ...'. Below the description are several links: 'Careers', 'Tuition Fees & Payments', 'Current Vacancies', and 'Our Educators', each followed by a snippet: 'Dunecrest is Esol Education's new flagship school in Dubai, part of ...'. At the bottom of the search results, there is a link 'More results from dunecrest.ae »'. On the right side of the search results, there is a map showing the location of Dunecrest American School in Dubai. The map includes a street view image of the school building and a map view showing the school's location relative to other landmarks like 'LOWE Dubai' and 'AlBarari Mosq'. Below the map, the school's name 'Dunecrest American School' is displayed, along with buttons for 'Website', 'Directions', 'Save', and 'Call'. The school's address is 'Wadi Al Safa 3 - Dubai - United Arab Emirates', and its hours are 'Closed · Opens 8 a.m. Wed'. The phone number is '+971 4 508 7444' and the website is 'dunecrest.ae'.

- 5) You will also notice, both the signatures in the email mention Dialing Code **(+971)** and Area Code **(5)** but based on our google search we can see the true or advertised Dialing Code and Area code.
- 6) These things weren’t as obvious at first, but once you read the email again and even pay close attention the first time to see who is sending the email, what is being sent, what is being asked and MOST importantly the signature, you will notice some things are not right.

- 7) Almost forgot to mention, in the initial email from the scammer, there was also a 5-page PDF attached in that email with more details such as, “Allowances and Benefits, Meals, Moving Expensive, etc. Looked very promising at first, but certain things didn’t add up. Also, if you look carefully at the **Dunecrest logo**, they have the FAKE website URL. See the image below

12.0 OTHER ALLOWANCES AND/OR BENEFITS:

This shall be provided for as deemed appropriate, and will be paid by employer. Quality single or family housing in company community. Personal effects shipment and excess baggage allowances. Free medical care for you and your family for contract duration.

*Car Maintenance: AED 4,600 (Monthly)

*House & Furnishings: AED 170,659 (Yearly)

*Entertainment & Recreation: AED 2,203 (Monthly)

*Travel & Events: AED 3,489 (Monthly)

*Free Education for Employees children (Only if Employee is coming as a family Status)

*Free Medicals care for Employee/Family

12.1 PROBATIONARY PERIOD:

UAE Labour Law Section 4 - The probation period. During the probation period either the employer or the employee may terminate the employment contract with immediate effect without the employee being liable to pay end of service gratuity or the employee, compensation for damages. According to Article 37 of the Law, the probation period can be for a maximum period of 3 months. It is not permissible for the employer to employ any person on probation, more than once.

13.0 VACATION:

Employees' shall be authorized paid 2 times vacation during the term of the contract, to be used at the employee's discretion after duly informing and receiving approval from employer's management. The Duration of each leave period shall be 30days. Other holidays and official day off like the EID shall also be observed.

Employer Will pay for travel expenses (i.e. flight tickets) and flat Rate travel allowance of USD4,600.00, this will also serve as a **COMPENSATION** for each leave period.

14.0 MOBILIZATIONS:

The first two monthly salaries shall be paid in advance before you embark on journey to assume duty. This is to enable you settle all domestic needs in your country before travel. As such no excuses will be entertained on assumption of duty relating to default. All payment of Salary after assumption of duty shall be 75% paid into an offshore account to be provided by employee with the remaining 25% paid locally in your UAE account for local expenses. This is in line with the UAE expatriate financial statutory laws. Expatriate shall also be liable to pay 1% of salary as withholding tax to the relevant authority.



- 8) The next day Omar receives a call from so called the “Abal Travel” Agent named Jack from the number mentioned in the emails signature, and not the one mentioned officially on Dunecrest American School’s website. The Agent explains in order to proceed, Omar must send passport information and deposit USD \$3000. Screenshot attached below. Another thing to note is that SCAMMERS make you feel that is extremely urgent to make payment or complete the process that involves them stealing your money. In this case it was to send the USD \$ 3000 deposit to secure the position and to avoid delay on “Visa Process”. This is Real Fishy now, but we’ll keep digging.

Thanks for your email

Regarding our conversation today via email about how to deposit our Visa processing fee.

You are to send the processing fee via Instant Cash – Global Money Transfer or Ria Money Transfer (Ria Exchange) in the name of our Accountant Cashier (MOHIN UDDIN JOYNAL ABDIN) for immediate confirmation as to avoid further delay as time is limited.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

First Name: Mohin Uddin
Last Name: Joynal Abdin
Phone: +971588236203
Country: U.A.E.

Amount: ..US\$ 3,000

Thanks in advance for your kind understanding and co-operation as we whilst immensely for your soonest co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Jack Wilson

- 9) I was extremally curious at this point and wanted to know a little more about Dunecrest American School, what is being offered and when it was established, etc. I went to the official website www.dunecrest.ae , like anyone else navigated through there “About” and more tabs to get some information. Not to long after I came across, the official site stating, “**Dunecrest is aware of employment scams using our school's name.**” Please view the screenshot below or you can read it at www.dunecrest.ae/about/careers/current-vacancies Looks like we are coming to a complete satisfaction that this is work of scammers and cheaters.

CURRENT VACANCIES

To apply for an open position at Dunecrest, please submit a letter of application, resume, and two letters of reference via email to careers@dunecrest.ae.

The minimum requirements for a teaching position at Dunecrest are a professional teaching certificate or qualification and a minimum of three years of relevant teaching experience.

Scam Alert

Dunecrest is aware of employment scams using our school's name. Dunecrest will never ask for money during the application process. All applicants being considered should expect a video call with one of the Dunecrest leaders listed on our website.

Teachers, Secure Your Information

Dunecrest American School works with highly specialized international teacher recruitment partners with a transparent process, and will never issue job offers or employ third parties, travel agents or local recruitment companies. Please check that correspondence is on official headed paper, and verify email addresses and website reference carefully, and ensure that you are corresponding with a genuine member of our team. If you are in doubt about an email you have received, please write to us on careers@dunecrest.ae.

Also, you can find out more about the educators and at the bottom of the page it mentions, **“Dunecrest American School was founded in 2018. We will continue to write our history with every new day.”** This leads me to question, when was this FAKE Dunecresta.com and created Please view the screenshot below or you can read it at <https://www.dunecrest.ae/about/our-educators>

Dunecrest American School was founded in 2018. We will continue to write our history with every new day.

10) let's do a quick whois. Whois is widely used to obtain information regarding domain owner, it helps you gather information on registered domain. There is a way to get private registration, and you can hide or protect the privacy of Registrant but that's not the point. We will stick to finding out when this domain was created. **Does it match to when Duncrest American School was established?**

ca.godaddy.com/whois/results.aspx?checkAvail=1&domain=dunecresta.com

WHOIS search results

Domain Name: DUNECRESTA.COM
Registry Domain ID: 2700021058_DOMAIN_COM-VRSN
Registrar WHOIS Server: whois.namecheap.com
Registrar URL: http://www.namecheap.com
Updated Date: 2022-05-30T08:16:34Z
Creation Date: 2022-05-30T08:16:20Z
Registry Expiry Date: 2023-05-30T08:16:20Z
Registrar: NameCheap, Inc.
Registrar IANA ID: 1068
Registrar Abuse Contact Email: abuse@namecheap.com
Registrar Abuse Contact Phone: +1.6613102107
Domain Status: clientTransferProhibited <https://icann.org/epp#clientTransferProhibited>
Name Server: DNS1.NAMECHEAPHOSTING.COM
Name Server: DNS2.NAMECHEAPHOSTING.COM
DNSSEC: unsigned

As we can see SCAMMERS, recently created their FAKE Websites.

Domain Information

Name: ABALTRAVEL.COM

Registry Domain ID: 2699538213_DOMAIN_COM-VRSN

Domain Status:
[clientTransferProhibited](#)

Nameservers:
DNS1.NAMECHEAPHOSTING.COM
DNS2.NAMECHEAPHOSTING.COM

Dates

Registry Expiration: 2023-05-27 23:35:50 UTC

Updated: 2022-05-27 23:36:13 UTC

Created: 2022-05-27 23:35:50 UTC

11) Also, I did another quick google search and came across the following below
<https://stop419scams.com/viewtopic.php?f=9&t=13105>

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying a forum page on stop419scams.com. The page has a blue header with a red banner that says "BEWARE OF SCAMMERS!". Below the header, there's a navigation bar with links like "Quick links", "FAQ", "Contact us", and "Login". The main content area shows a forum post titled "Scammers Impersonating Dunecrest American School Dubai / dunecresta.com / Fake Job Scam Fraud". The post is by a user named "Caped Crusader" and is dated "Thu Jun 09, 2022 10:54 am". The post text reads: "This is a fake job scam! There is no job! Do not send documents or money! If you are not interviewed face to face, in person, the job offer is Always a scam! If you are asked to pay fees for a visa or work permit or anything else, the job offer is a scam, even if they say they will reimburse you! No real company or embassy ever uses a free email address! With UAE job scams the fake job scammer usually sends you to a scam travel agency to collect fees. In the UAE, the employer is responsible for all employment fees. Don't pay anything up front. Read and [Never Wire Money to Strangers!](#) and [Identifying Scam Websites!](#) or click on the images below:". Below the text, there are three red boxes with white text: "Fraud Alert! Fake Job Scam! www.scam-job-emails.tk", "Fake Website read http://www.dunecresta.com to avoid these scams", and "Never wire money to strangers Read http://www.dunecresta.com to avoid these scams". To the right of the post, there's a profile for "Caped Crusader" with a picture of a superhero, "Site Admin", "Posts: 5822", "Joined: Tue Feb 23, 2016 12:14 pm", and "Contact:". The page footer shows "First unread post • 1 post • Page 1 of 1".

Some Key takeaways and pointers.

- 1) A well-known founded org or institution will usually use their own domain to send emails.
- 2) Employer don't require a payment in application process or any sort of payment, it's even stated in Dnuecrest American School Official website.
- 3) NEVER pay to an individual's bank account or do a wire transfer, this should tell you it's a SCAM!
- 4) Be vigilant of the domain or the scammers fake websites, look carefully at the signature of the email. If In doubt do your do diligence, research about the institution, whois, google, LinkedIn, etc.
- 5) Rule of thumb if no face-to-face interview is conducted and job has been offered, it's a SCAM!!
- 6) If there is any key pointer I left out or forgot, please kindly share in the post! Spread the word!