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
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TEFL forum - What is history & reputation of **Laowai Career Center** in China? Legit or Scam?


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Viewing 5 posts - 1 through 5 (of 5 total)



Why Not?
Participant
25 Mar 2017 at 7:52
Total posts: 13

My cousin in the U.S. was contacted by them claiming he was qualified for a job that he never applied for. I am now trying to find more information for him since I lived and worked in China and never heard of this group before. Their website seems to have a lot of identical ads as other ESL & TEFL job boards but does not list a telephone number nor a street address. The only way to contact them is to give all of your contact information and wait for a call back which if you are a teacher is not very convenient. I also noticed that they run a lot of blind ads at echinacities, beijinger, gumtree, and craigslist but specific information is missing. So what is the 411 on these guys?



Laowai Lao Shi
Participant

I tried to post my brief encounter by telephone with this company which

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Laowai Lao Shi
Participant
27 Mar 2017 at 9:51
Total posts: 18

I tried to post my brief encounter by telephone with this company which was quite unusual but my post was deleted. I removed the derogatory links I found online about the company and tried to include as a reference, and will now just talk about my own call I had with **Laowai Career Center**. I called them only after getting the phone number through an embassy in Beijing since **Laowai Career Center** does not publish their telephone number nor street address online and when I finally got through to the and spoke with a girl named Isis or Iris (I could not understand her clearly), here is what took place and a brief background as follows;

It took me a full hour to read all of the 9 negative posts I found online about the company and it seems the Russian owner is famous for using fake testimonials and reviews. and user "British Gypsy" at the above link tells us all we really need to know I think. I also noticed that China Sc*m Patrol wrote a huge 15-page report on the man's last fra*d "G*2C" at this link. here...

If the Russian owner had a legitimate service to offer people, I do not think he would need to keep changing his company name every time he is accused of cheating people. I also think a legitimate company would put their real address and telephone number on their website. I managed to obtain their phone number through the commercial section of the American embassy (and was even "unofficially" warned by them to avoid the company). But I was curious to know if **Laowai Career Center** was properly licensed and registered to do business in China.

Anyway, I called and spoke with a girl named Isis or Iris and she was polite and friendly. But when I asked her what the company's SAIC and SAFEA registration numbers were, she put me on hold for about 10 minutes. When she came back she was still polite but told me that I did not need that

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Page: 1/1

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I never was able to ask for a copy of their contract so when I called back, Isis again answered the phone and I asked if I could read a copy of their contract and she told me they were not accepting any new applications and hung up the phone after saying something in Chinese I could not understand. I did not use their service, but after the way I was treated on the phone in such a mysterious way, I would not become of their clients even if I did not read that other stuff I saw online. I did manage to ask "Max" how long the company was in business and he told me "almost ten years" but when I checked the registration of the Laowai **Center** website at whois dotcom, they say the website was created in August of 2014 - not 10 years ago - only 2.5 years ago,

BTW, I contacted both SAFEA and SAIC and neither one ever heard of Lawoai **Career Center** so if they do have a business license, it is in some other name. Crytsal at SAFEA in Beijing said she checked their nation-wide database and could not find anyone registered by that name or even with the Russian owner's name. She said that anyone who hired foreigners in China would have to be properly registered with them.

Draw your own conclusions. I did.

 **Sanchez**
Participant
28 Mar 2017 at 0:20
Total posts: 14

First of all, I would never do any business with any company in any country that refuses to give me their office address and telephone number. That in itself is a huge red flag telling me they have something to hide. Secondly, when it comes to China, every legitimate company has a business license and if they hire foreigners they must be registered with SAFEA and have a SAFEA registration number. Legitimate companies are proud to tell customers their registration numbers to give them legal comfort. And if someone cannot tell me how they got my resume when I know I did not

页面: 2/2 字


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 **Sanchez**
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If I was still unsure I would check all five or six of the China blacklists that are compiled by all the veteran expats who get tricked and trapped over the years by assorted cheaters. In this case of **Laowai Career Center**, I never heard of them before I came to see this thread and then checked the blacklists and found them on four of them. But for me it doesn't matter because I never use agencies or job agents anyway. I always go the direct route and negotiate my own contracts. I already got burned once by a unlicensed recruiter and will never make that mistake again. <http://reddit.com/r/chinascamcentral> may be useful to all of you. It was for me.

 **Davis**
Participant
29 Mar 2017 at 1:29
Total posts: 45

I have no personal experience with this new kid on the block but I would never use an agency anyway. This group is especially one that needs to be flagged in my opinion. Here are my reasons;

My links were deleted but you can mosey over to


页面: 3/3 字

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 **Davis**
Participant
29 Mar 2017 at 1:29
Total posts: 45

I have no personal experience with this new kid on the block but I would never use an agency anyway. This group is especially one that needs to be flagged in my opinion. Here are my reasons;

My links were deleted but you can mosey over to e*s*I.*wa*tch*.in*fo/forum*/china and just search the forum for **Laowai Career Center**. I don't understand why anyone would want to protect these cretins from exposure especially they use 4 different company names to bait teachers into their fraud trap. (Remove the the asterisks from the website address).

IMO only lazy teachers rely on agents and recruiters in China. Applying directly to employers always gets you a better salary and better work schedules that you yourself can negotiate during the interview. Even an honest agent (there are a handful) will just get you a standard "package deal" that excludes your ability to negotiate anything.

 **Bandit**
Participant
30 Mar 2017 at 4:54
Total posts: 16

I can't answer your question because I refused to do business with them after they claimed they "were sorry in the delay getting back to me". I never contacted them, yet somehow they had a copy of my resume. Although the job they were offering me was attractive, I never felt comfortable nor confident they were for real. So I started snooping around on the internet and found this at reddit:
https://www.reddit.com/r/Scams/comments/61wni8/only_10_of_all_china_jc
That made my decision a whole lot easier.

页面: 4/4 字

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