

# Job application fraud on the rise

RECRUITMENT company PAG has noted an increase in the number of job candidates misrepresenting their qualifications and work history, possibly owing to the tough economic climate.

PAG's personal verification agency has revealed statistics that show 34% of job applicants falsify their experience, education and abilities.

It reports 33% give inaccurate dates of employment; 30% exaggerate their accomplishments; 11% misrepresent their reasons for leaving their previous employer; 10% are dishonest about their backgrounds; and 9% falsify their qualifications, employers and previous work roles.

Worse still, 15% of all criminal checks submitted by PAG came back positive; 17% of the qualification checks submitted were returned unconfirmed; 30% of credit history requests revealed a negative history; 8% of ID verification checks proved to be incorrect; 16% of drivers' licence checks came back negative; and 4% of fraud checks came back positive.

PAG general manager Bonnie Currin said candidates might fabricate their qualifications owing to fierce competition and increasing unemployment.

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