



FACT SHEET: Tech Bootcamp Prehired’s Nationwide Scam to Defraud Students

Prehired was a technology sales training bootcamp founded in 2017 by Joshua Jordan. In February 2022, the Student Borrower Protection Center (SBPC) discovered the company had been utilizing a plethora of predatory practices.

Using a six-week course, the school claimed it could prepare students for, and place them in, jobs as “sales development representatives” at software companies. This included a “[Member Success Guarantee](#)” offer which stated, “We guarantee you land a \$60k+ job offer within 12 months of finishing coursework (\$40k base + expected commissions).”

The school also [claimed](#) that:

- Students had an “average [income of] \$69,000 in their first year with 6-figure potential after that,” and;
- On average, “Prehired members are HIRED in 12 weeks,” with 96 percent getting hired within six months.

To pay for this program, students took on Income Share Agreements (ISAs) with Meratas (previously with Leif) wherein students agreed to pay [as much as 12.5 percent](#) of their income each month if their annualized income was above \$60,000—all under the ruse of guaranteed jobs and financial success. The ISA debt would be extinguished either after the borrower made 48 payments, cumulatively paid \$30,000, or after the borrower finished eight years of sequential repayment—whichever came sooner.

Prehired [touted](#) that its use of ISAs allowed it to “align our success with yours,” claiming in marketing materials that its “members only start paying dues only after they land a job and make enough money per month” and that the ISA [helped ensure](#) that the program involved “No Risk.”

From January 13 to February 15, 2022, Joshua Jordan filed [more than 280 lawsuits](#)—all in Delaware state court, although the defendants lived all across the country—demanding former students pay \$25,000 apiece on defaulted ISAs. Subsequent [posts online](#) from students targeted in these lawsuits and otherwise scammed by Prehired made clear that the school was little more than a grift aimed at trapping students into expensive private loans for a fraudulent educational product.

Income Share Agreements (ISAs)

ISAs are a risky form of student financing that tie student loan payments to future wages. As SBPC has [written](#), a growing body of evidence demonstrates that leading ISA providers routinely engage in a wide range of abuses extending across companies and across the higher education sector. These practices include relying on [deceptive marketing](#), servicing and collecting [void or unenforceable](#) debts, engaging in [racial discrimination](#), charging [illegal prepayment penalties](#), and [more](#).

SBPC [highlighted](#) the following student stories about Prehired, drawing attention to these lawsuits soon after they were filed:

"I had to file bankruptcy. . . . Nothing I've ever used in any sales role since has been from PreHired."

Source: [LinkedIn](#)

*"When I started my time with PreHired, I was promised the dream of having a 6-figure income. . . . I completed the training in about 2 weeks, started my career search journey and applied to 50+ job postings as I was instructed. None reached out to schedule more interviews. . . . Nearly 2 years later I still do not make close to 6-figures. **I have exhausted my savings** to keep me afloat but I am just ashamed to have gone through PreHired's training bootcamp."*

Source: [LinkedIn](#)

*"I was a former school teacher desperate to change careers during covid. . . . I was angry when I realized [the training] was pre recorded and that there was no one really there to help you along the way. **The job I got approached me because of my degree in business and not because of PreHired.** They were not even familiar with them. I was even more angry when I realized that no matter what the training PreHired offered as 'like nothing else' was only a blip of the training you get PAID to do during your onboarding process with the company. Absolutely a predatory company."*

Source: [LinkedIn](#)

*"When I started my time with PreHired, I was promised the dream of having a 6-figure income. . . . I completed the training in about 2 weeks, started my career search journey and applied to 50+ job postings as I was instructed. None reached out to schedule more interviews. . . . Nearly 2 years later I still do not make close to 6-figures. **I have exhausted my savings** to keep me afloat but I am just ashamed to have gone through PreHired's training bootcamp."*

Source: [LinkedIn](#)

*"At the start of COVID I started to search for a work-at-home option in a different field. That night I found a Facebook ad for Prehired. I went through the orientation and the training and then went straight for the mentor job search part of the program. For the next 12 months, **I was submitting twice the required applications a week and went on countless interviews but never got a job**, except for a job my mentor told me to take that was purely on a commission that only lasted a week, and then the search was back on."*

Source: [LinkedIn](#)

Students also [reported](#):

- Being instructed to misrepresent their income as higher than it actually was so that Prehired could increase payments on their ISAs;
- Being [sent to collections](#) even after being declared 100 percent disabled; and
- [Learning after graduation](#) that comparable courses of study were available for free online.

Meanwhile, other students who sought protection under Prehired's employment guarantee were systematically [given the runaround](#). As Washington Attorney General Ferguson [noted](#) when the state filed a lawsuit against Prehired in 2022, many of these students appear to be military veterans.

Finally, a student who refused in protest to pay on his ISA and who went on to found his own software sales staffing business [claimed](#) that Joshua Jordan hired him to threaten students with lawsuits if they did not pay on their Prehired ISAs, adding that he "received a lecture from Joshua Jordan on the dynamics of using fear within business tactics."

According to [public reports](#), "Prehired voluntarily dismissed the [Delaware] collection cases after the state consumer protection unit expressed its concerns in a March 8 letter, noting that virtually all of the defendants resided outside of Delaware and had no practical way to defend themselves in the lawsuits."

However, those reports indicate that, "Days later, Prehired began refileing the same cases on the Ejudicate online arbitration platform — even though students never agreed to [arbitration]."

On June 8, 2022, Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson [announced](#) a first-in-the-nation lawsuit against Prehired and Joshua Jordan, stating that the company "duped Washingtonians into paying \$30,000 for an online course" that proved not to be what the company advertised, offered a "guarantee" to land students "a \$60k+ job offer" only for that claim "to be a lie," and "used aggressive collection techniques like lawsuits and forced arbitration to get the money" it had trapped students into paying, among several other areas of illegal and harmful conduct.

In September 2022, seven months after SBPC's [exposé](#) of the company, Prehired [filed](#) for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. In its filings, Prehired [noted](#) it was "the focus of investigations by Attorneys General in at least sixteen states" and the target of several private lawsuits.

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About Student Borrower Protection Center

The [Student Borrower Protection Center](#) (SBPC) is a nonprofit organization focused on alleviating the burden of student debt for millions of Americans. The SBPC engages in advocacy, policymaking, and litigation strategy to rein in industry abuses, protect borrowers' rights, and advance economic opportunity for the next generation of students.

Learn more at protectborrowers.org or follow SBPC on Twitter [@theSBPC](https://twitter.com/theSBPC).