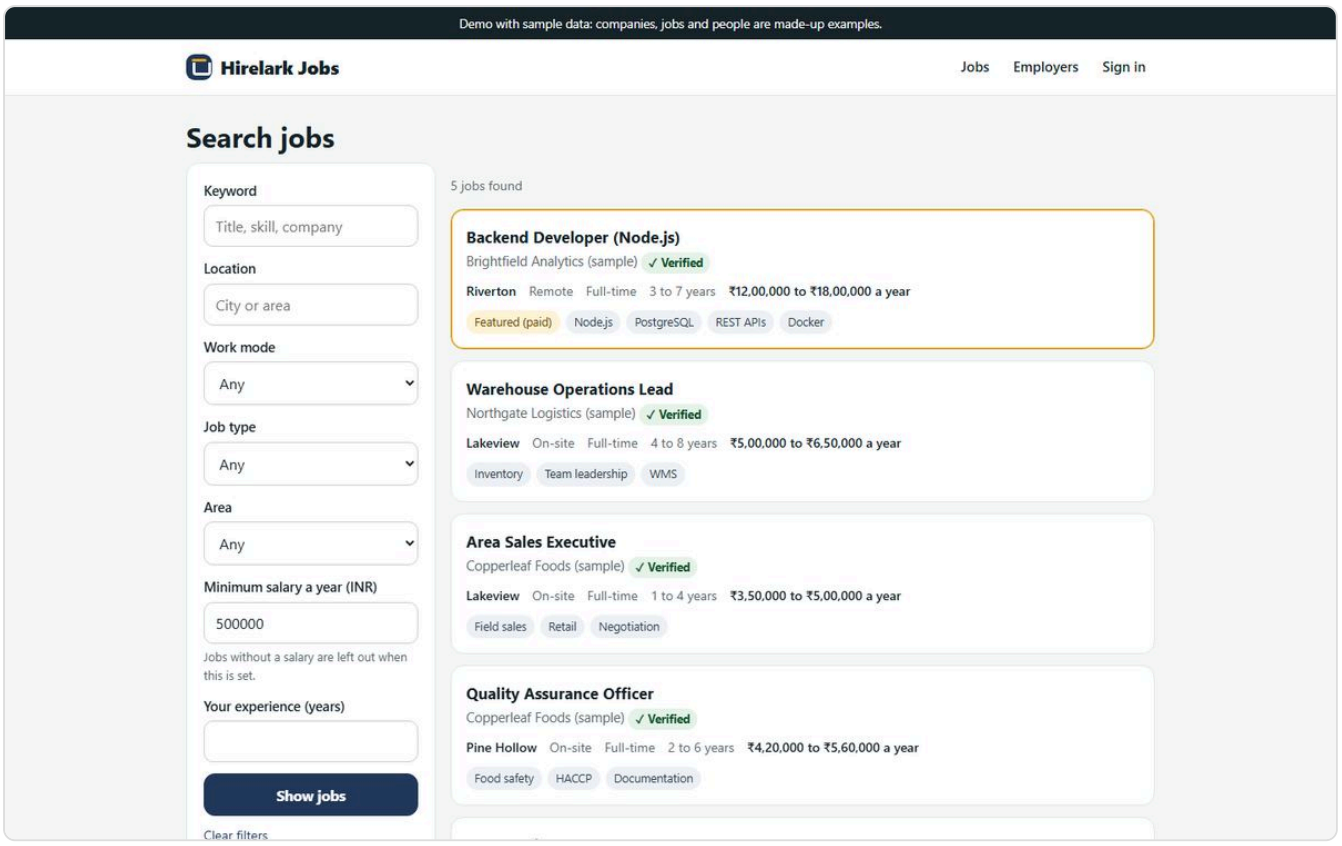
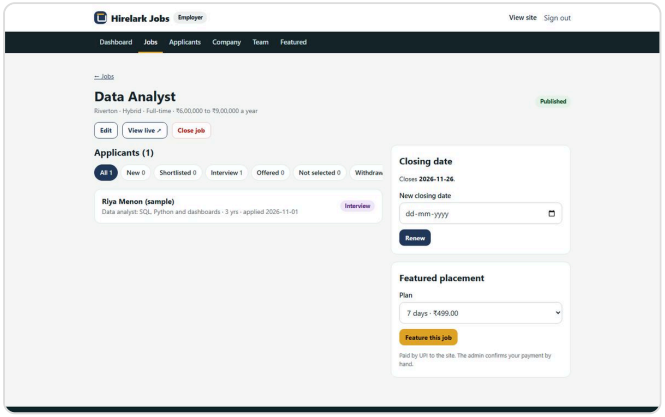
CODE CRAFT · INSTALLATION GUIDE

Jobs Portal App

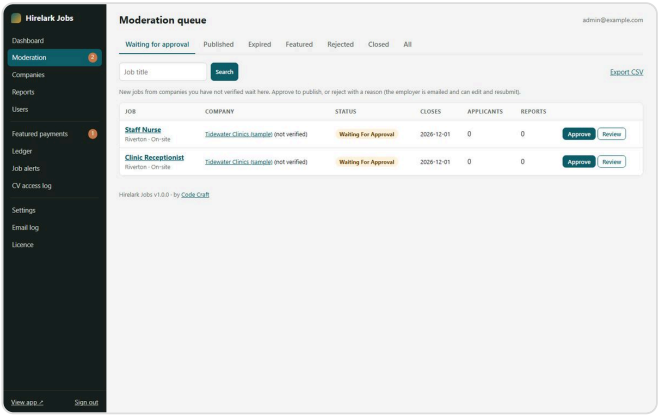
Hirelark Jobs 1.0: a candidate web app, an employer panel for companies and their recruiters, an admin panel with moderation and paid featured jobs, a REST API and an Expo mobile app, all in one Node.js project. This guide takes you from download to a live jobs site on Hostinger, cPanel or a VPS.



Job search with filters for keyword, location, work mode, minimum salary, type, area and experience. Featured jobs are labelled as paid.



Employer: a job's applicants by pipeline stage.



Admin: the moderation queue.

No job-board syndication, no ATS integration and no background checks. Jobs are not sent to or imported from other job sites, and "Verified" only means the admin checked a company's details. "Hirelark Jobs", the companies, jobs, people and CVs in the demo are sample data, marked "(sample)".

1. What is in the download

Folder / file	What it is
`server.js`	Start file. Hostinger, cPanel and PM2 run this.
`src/routes/`	`web.js` (candidate site), `employer.js` (employer panel at `/employer`), `admin.js`, `api.js` (REST API).
`src/lib/`	Search, expiry, moderation, applications and the pipeline (`jobs.js`); CV checks, private storage and the view log (`cv.js`); featured orders, UPI and the ledger (`featured.js`); job alerts (`alerts.js`); settings, licence and mailer.
`views/`, `public/`	EJS templates, CSS and scripts.
`storage/cvs/`	Private CV files, outside the public folder. Empty in the download.
`prisma/`, `scripts/`	Database schema, the sample-data script, setup and the alerts sender.
`mobile/`	The Expo (React Native) app with a candidate mode and an employer mode.
`test/`	25 unit, API and web-page tests.

Requirements

- Node.js 18.18 or newer (20 or 22 LTS recommended).
- Database: nothing extra for SQLite (default). MySQL 8+ or PostgreSQL 13+ use the same Prisma schema; only SQLite was tested.
- A domain with https, writable `storage/cvs/` and `public/uploads/` folders, and SMTP for emails.
- For the mobile app: an Expo account, and Google Play / Apple developer accounts to publish.

2. Run it on your computer

```
npm install
npm run setup      # .env with a random APP_SECRET, the tables and the sample data
npm start          # http://localhost:3550
```

Address	What opens
`http://localhost:3550`	Candidate site
`/employer`	Employer panel (sign in at `/login`)
`/admin`	Admin panel
`/api/v1`	REST API (see `API.md`)

`npm run setup -- --no-seed` creates empty tables and the first visit to `/admin` runs the setup wizard. `npm run setup -- --reseed` wipes everything and loads the sample data again.

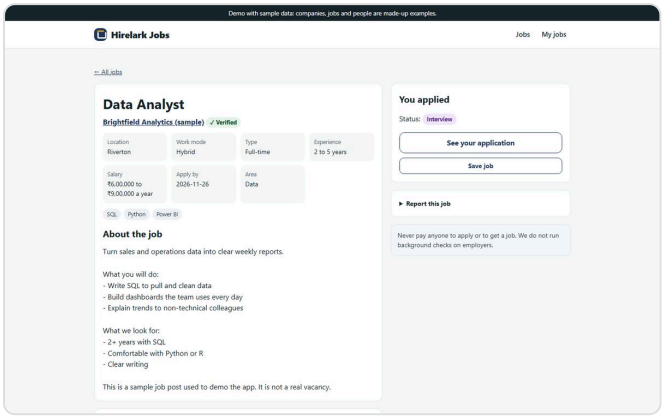
Demo logins (sample data, on your own copy only)

Role	Email	Password
Admin	`admin@example.com`	`Demo-Admin-2026!`
Employer, verified company	`employer@example.com`	`Demo-Employer-2026!`
Recruiter at the same company	`recruiter@example.com`	`Demo-Recruiter-2026!`
Employer with an expired job to renew	`employer3@example.com`	`Demo-Employer-2026!`
Employer, unverified company (jobs wait for moderation)	`employer4@example.com`	`Demo-Employer-2026!`
Candidate with a sample CV, applications, a saved job and an alert	`candidate@example.com`	`Demo-Candidate-2026!`

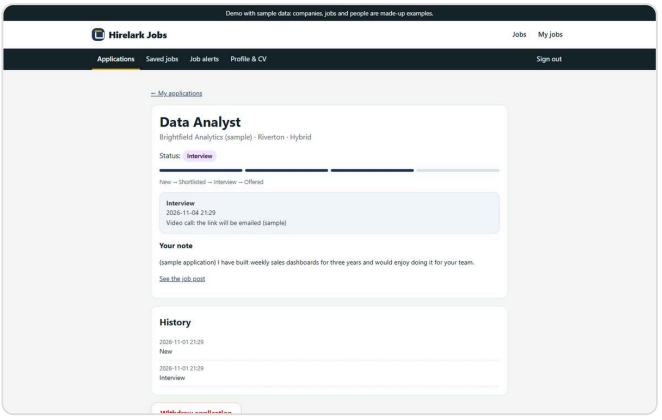
Delete or change these accounts before you go live. The demo has a handful of labelled sample applications; counts on the site are always real counts from your database.

3. Candidates

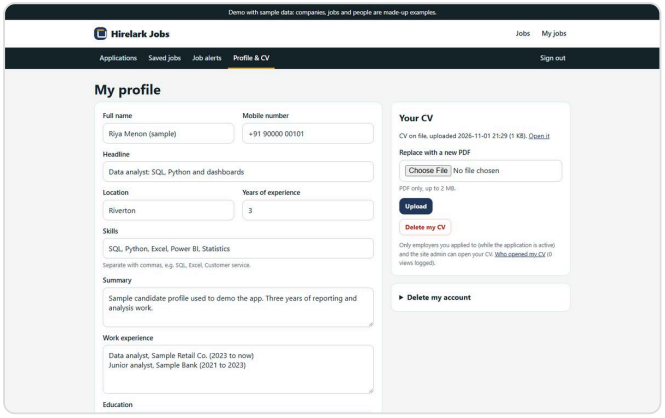
1. **Profile:** headline, summary, location, skills, years of experience, work history and education.
2. **CV:** PDF only. The server checks the file's first bytes, not just its name, and the size limit (default 2 MB, hard limit 5 MB).
3. **Search:** keyword, location, remote / hybrid / on-site, minimum salary a year (monthly salaries are annualised), job type, area and years of experience. Featured jobs show first, labelled "Featured (paid)".
4. **Apply** once per job with an optional note. A database unique constraint makes even two simultaneous clicks one application. Track the stage, see interview details, withdraw.
5. **Saved jobs and job alerts** (saved searches, daily or weekly, with an unsubscribe link). Candidates see who opened their CV, and can delete the CV or the whole account.



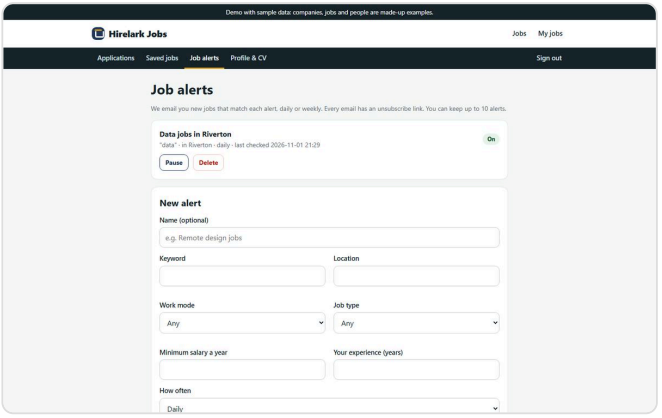
A job post with the candidate's application status.



My application: stage, interview details and history.



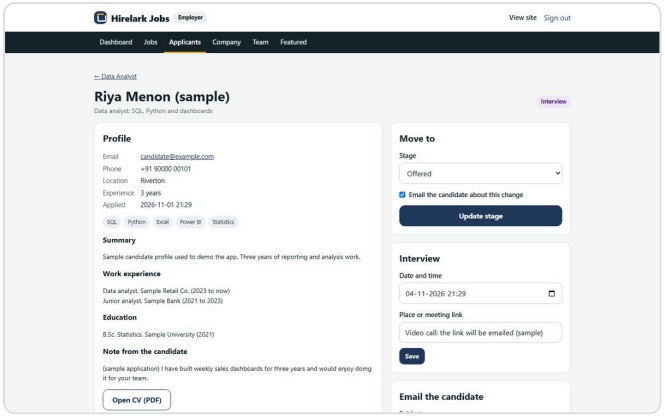
Profile and CV, with the list of who opened it.



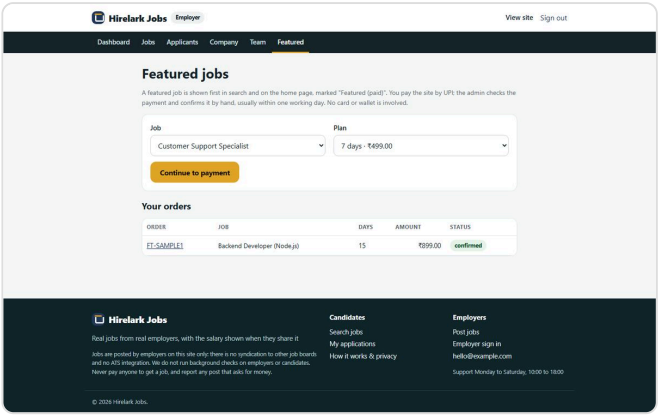
Job alerts.

4. Employers and recruiters

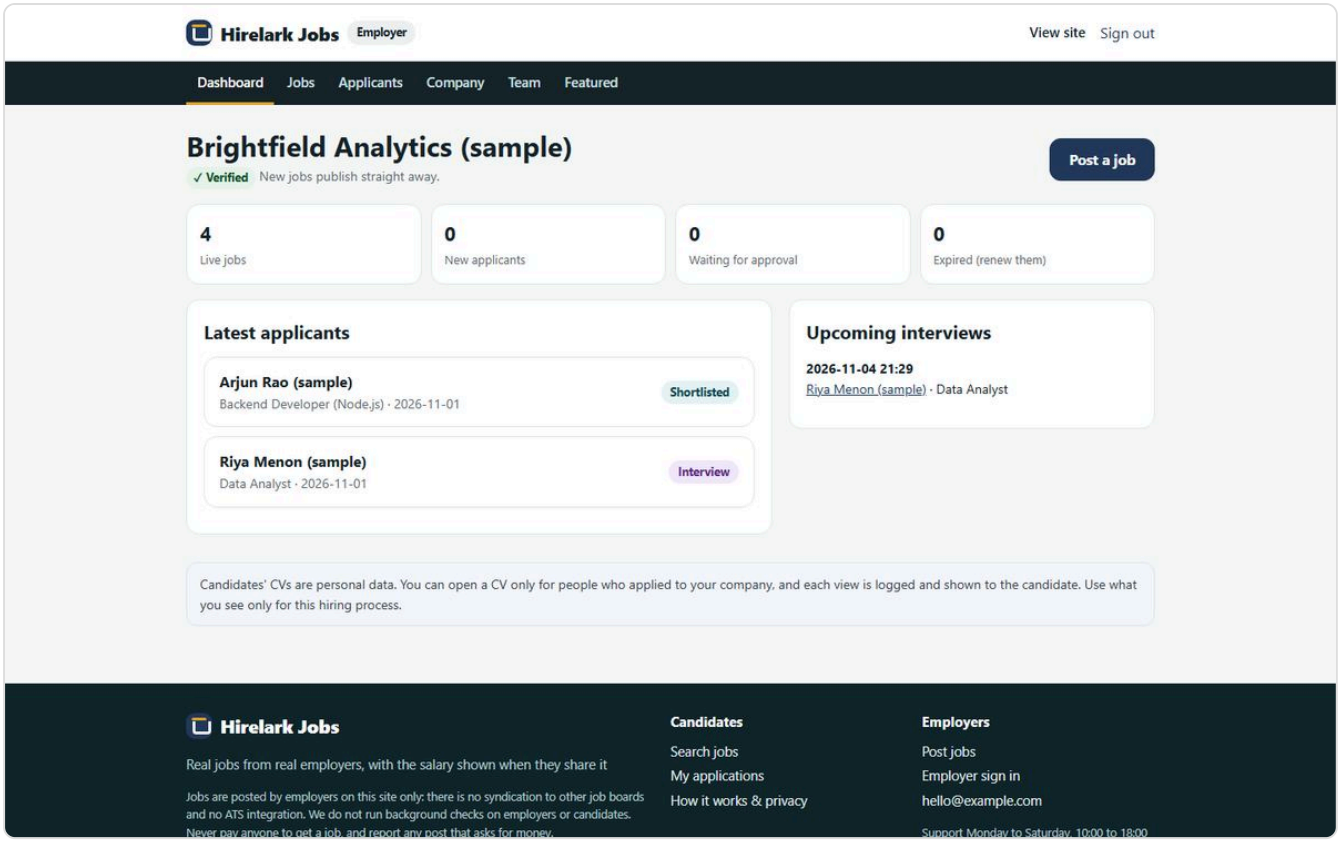
1. **Company profile** with logo. The verified badge is set only by the admin.
2. **Job posts:** title, area, location, work mode, salary range (optional, shown only if given), skills, experience range, type, description and a closing date. Jobs leave search after the closing date and can be renewed, closed and reopened.
3. **Moderation:** new jobs from unverified companies wait in the admin queue; editing a live job of an unverified company sends it back for review.
4. **Pipeline:** new → shortlisted → interview → offered, or not selected (and withdrawn by the candidate). Only sensible moves are allowed. Interview date and place or link, private notes, and an optional email to the candidate on each move.
5. **Team:** the owner adds and blocks recruiter logins. Recruiters work jobs and applicants; only the owner edits the company, the team and featured payments.
6. **Featured placement:** the owner picks a plan, pays the site's UPI ID by link or QR and enters the UTR. The admin confirms it by hand.



An applicant: profile, CV, stage move, interview and notes.



Featured placement paid by UPI with the UTR.



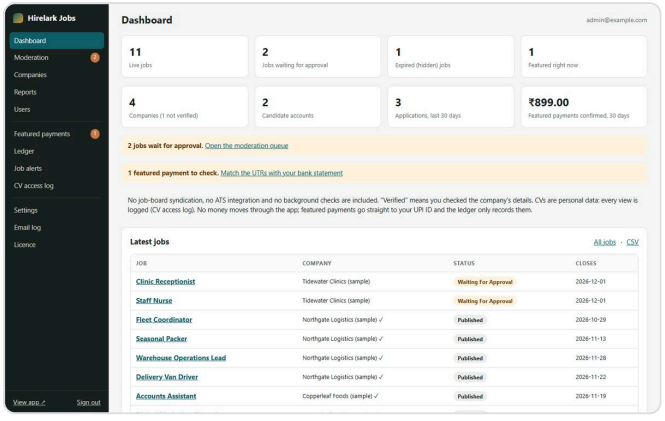
Employer dashboard.

5. Admin and going live

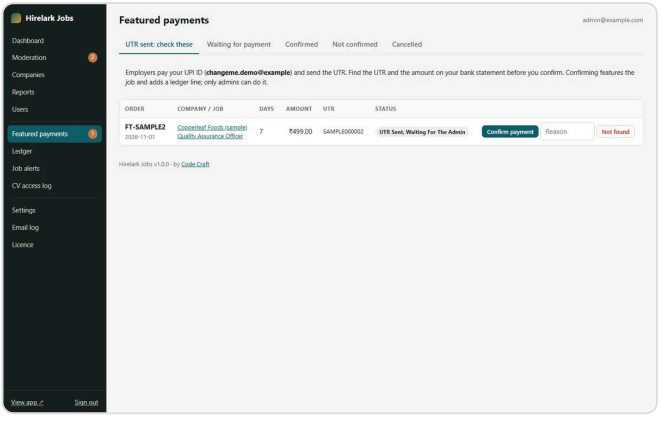
The admin verifies or suspends companies (with an internal note of what was checked), approves or rejects jobs in the moderation queue (the reason is emailed), sees all jobs with CSV export, handles reports from users (scam, misleading, discriminatory, duplicate), confirms featured payments after matching the UTR with the bank statement, keeps a ledger with manual refunds or adjustments, sends due job alerts, reads the CV access log and manages users. Settings cover business details, logo and colours, SEO, maintenance mode, job and CV limits, featured plans and the UPI ID, live chat, WhatsApp, analytics, banners and SMTP.

1. Upload the files without `node_modules`, `.env`, `*.db` and the contents of `storage/cvs/`.
2. Node 20 or 22, startup file `server.js` (Hostinger Node.js app, cPanel "Setup Node.js App" or PM2 on a VPS).
3. Environment: `DATABASE_URL`, `APP_SECRET`, `APP_URL=https://your-domain`, `TRUST_PROXY=true`, `CRON_KEY`, `CV_DIR` (optional) and `TZ`.
4. Run `npm install` and `npm run setup -- --no-seed`, then open `/admin`.
5. Add your licence key in Admin → Licence. On a real domain new job posts and applications stay switched off until it is active. One key covers one business on one live domain at a time. The app checks the key with coodecraft.com once a day and keeps a signed token, so it keeps working offline for at most 14 days. You can move the key to another domain up to 3 times a year (deactivate it on the old domain first). Local preview (`localhost`, `127.0.0.1`, `*.localhost` and `*.test`) needs no key.
6. Add the job-alerts cron job (section 6) and back up the database **and** `storage/cvs/`.

```
npm ci && npm run setup -- --no-seed
pm2 start server.js --name hirelark && pm2 save
```



Admin dashboard.



Admin: featured payments to confirm.

6. CVs, job alerts, email and payments

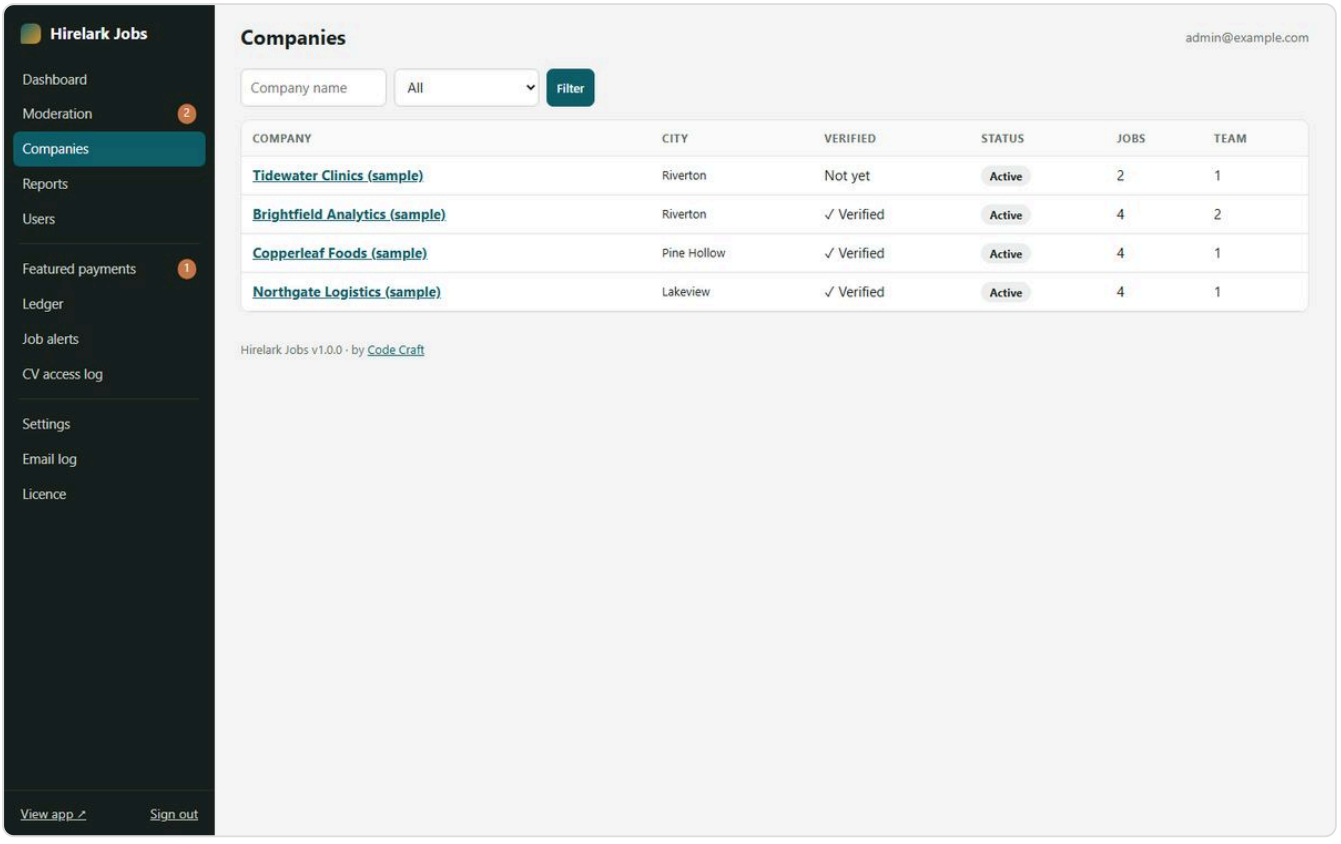
CVs are personal data. They are stored in `storage/cvs/` (or `CV_DIR`), outside `public/`, under random names that never appear in a page or API answer. A CV can be opened only by the candidate, by employers of a company the candidate has an active application with, and by admins. Every employer or admin view is logged and shown to the candidate. Laws such as India's DPDP Act 2023 or the EU/UK GDPR may apply to you as the operator: write a privacy notice, decide how long you keep CVs, and get local legal advice. Never put `storage/` under a public web root.

Job alerts are sent only when something triggers the digest: cron, the admin button or the cron URL.

```
npm run alerts          # cron, e.g.  30 7 * * * cd /path/to/app && npm run alerts
curl -X POST -H "X-Cron-Key: $CRON_KEY" https://your-domain/cron/alerts
```

Email: set SMTP in Admin → Settings → Email. Until then every email is written to Admin → Email log with the status "logged".

Payments: no payment gateway and no wallet. Featured placements are paid straight to your UPI ID and confirmed by the admin; a second confirm does nothing. The ledger only records them.



Admin: companies with their verification status.

7. REST API and the mobile app

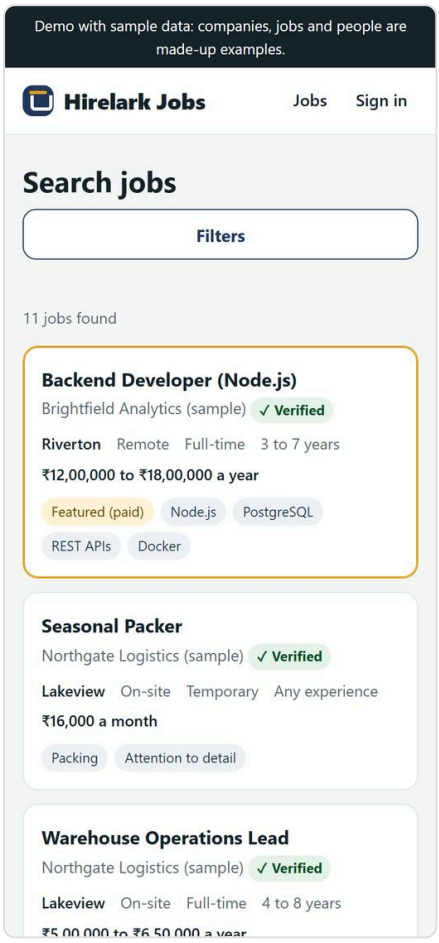
`/api/v1` uses bearer tokens (90 days) and no cookies. It covers search and jobs, a candidate's applications, saved jobs and alerts, and the employer's jobs, applicants and pipeline moves. See `API.md`.

```
curl "http://localhost:3550/api/v1/jobs?keyword=analyst&workMode=hybrid"
```

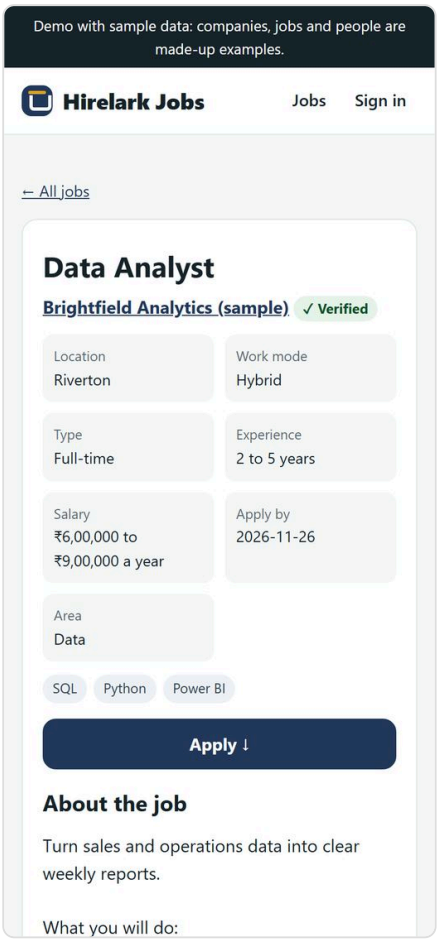
Run the mobile app

```
cd mobile
npm install
cp .env.example .env        # set APP_SERVER_URL
npx expo start              # w = web, a = Android, i = iOS
```

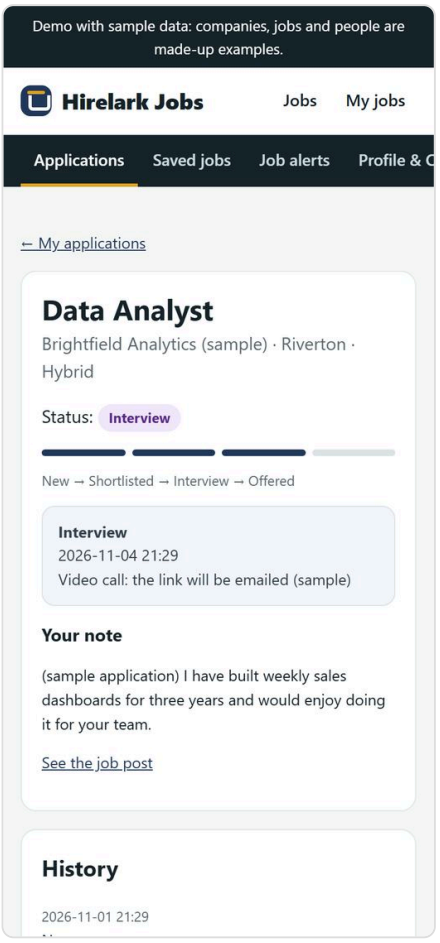
Candidate mode: search with filters, job details, apply with the CV already on the profile, save, my applications with progress and withdraw, alerts and account. Employer mode for owners and recruiters: my jobs with counts by stage, applicants by stage, renew an expired job, move the pipeline stage with interview details, email switch and notes. The app has no file picker, so CV uploads, job posting, the company profile, the team and featured payments are on the website. Admins use the web admin panel.



Jobs at phone width.



A job.



An application.

8. Honest limits and troubleshooting

- No job-board syndication and no ATS integration.
- No background checks on employers or candidates.
- No payment gateway and no wallet; UPI payments are confirmed by hand.
- The mobile app has been type-checked and exported for web only. Native Android and iOS builds have not been run by us: test your EAS builds on real phones before publishing.
- Tests ran on SQLite only.

Problem	Fix
A new job does not appear in search	The company is not verified, so the job is waiting in Admin → Moderation; or its closing date has passed.
CV upload refused	Only real PDF files are accepted, up to the size limit in Settings → Jobs.
Job alerts never arrive	Add the cron job or use Admin → Job alerts → Send due alerts now, and set SMTP.
Job posts or applications are switched off on the live site	Activate the licence in Admin → Licence.
Logged out right away behind https	Set `TRUST_PROXY=true`.

Support: **coodecraft.com/contact**. Packages with setup include installation on your hosting by us.