Job Requirements Explained

Most of the front-end developer job ads you'll see online is incredibly inaccurate. Most are written by people who are not developers and have little to no idea what the company is actually looking for. This obviously causes a lot of issues when new developers are looking for their first job.

Here's a perfect example. http://codifyacademy.com/craigslistjobad.png.

First off, the title implies 2 jobs, since the mobile and web developer are typically different people. When we click into the ad, we can see that they do want this to be the same person. It's possible that they want this, it would just pay a lot.

Next they list "node, objective-c, java, python and other languages". None of these are front-end languages, they're all backend, which is not something that a front end job would actually require. Secondly, there's no way that this company would possibly use all of these languages at the same time for their back-end. Most companies use only 1, unless you're google or twitter and have lots of projects going on.

Fun fact, Matt's first job listed PHP as a requirement and actually asked him a couple questions about it, turned out he didn't need it at all, the manager who wrote it just assumed that he needed it, since he read that they used it somewhere, he's not a coder. The job also listed 5 years and a CS degree as a requirement, Matt had neither and still landed the job

Most hiring managers, recruiters and people in HR who are writing these ads are used to doing things a certain way, and have very little knowledge of the industry or what they really need. What you should do is completely ignore the list of requirements and just apply, the worst they can say is no.

We've had one student get hired at jobs that listed 10 years of experience as a requirement, and they listed only a bit of freelance work on their portfolio. They also required a CS degree, but he only had his GED. So don't let lacking requirements get you down, no one actually fits them.

After reading this it should be clear that your goal is to get past this first person, and talk with someone who actually knows the technology. Then you'll be able to figure out what they're really looking for. To do that, apply to as many jobs as you can. The more interviews you do, the more likely you are going to get a job.

On average, it takes 200 applications to get hired.

It's a grind, but it will be well worth the effort.