bugcrowd

ANATOMY OF A BOUNTY BRIEF

The bounty brief outlines the rules of engagement for a bounty program, thereby setting the expectations for how both parties will behave throughout the process. It's the company's responsibility to write a concise and unambiguous brief, and the researcher's responsibility to read and understand it before working on the program. We're always available to provide guidance on drafting your bounty brief, but this guide will start you off in the right direction.

Scope

The single most important thing that you can do to ensure a successful program is to define a clear scope, leaving nothing open to interpretation. A bounty's scope informs the researchers what they can and cannot test, and points them to key targets. There's a careful balance to strike when considering how permissive your program's scope should be – start by evaluating your attack surface, your unique goals and these considerations:

- Too narrow of a scope may result in coverage and testing gaps (creating a false sense of security), or may signal to researchers that it's not worth their time
- A vague or incomplete scope may lead to lost testing time while researchers ask verification questions, or worse, create conflict and disagreement regarding the acceptability of valid submissions.
- An overly broad scope may create unwanted noise, and may distract resources and time constrained researchers from focusing on what you really care about

Focus

Let the researchers know what's important to you and draw attention to it. Many of our customers running ongoing programs offer additional bonuses for valid submissions on these critical targets. Focus areas may include specific bug types, specific functionality, new features, or whatever you feel needs special attention. For complex or unintuitive targets, be sure to provide documentation for the target - so as to assist researchers in working on the targets quickly and effectively.

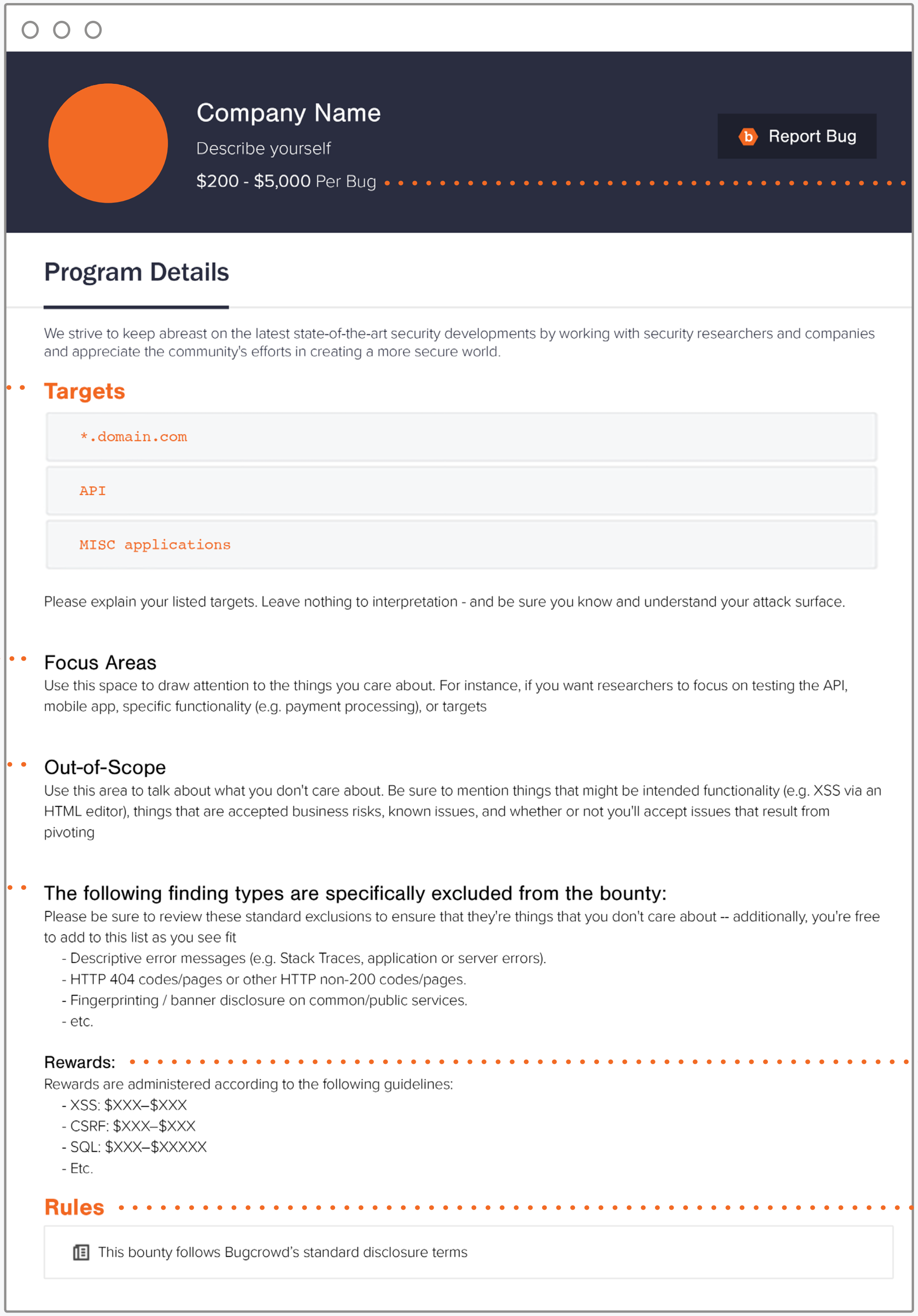
Out of Scope

It's also important to explicitly call out what is not in scope, or you may end up with frustrated researchers who expect to get paid for a vulnerability found on an otherwise "In Scope" target. The most common example listed as "Out-of-Scope" are hosts that resolve to third-party services. See Bugcrowd's brief for examples. Researchers are penalized for making Out of Scope submissions, so it is important to set accurate expectations of what is not rewardable before they begin testing.

Exclusions

Encourage good behavior and guide researchers in the right direction by accurately articulating any exclusions to your program's scope. Bugcrowd's templated 'out-of-scope' list excludes many vulnerabilities that can be easily picked up by scanners or automated testing methods that you're likely already using as part of your development process. Also, be sure to mention things that might be intended functionality (e.g. XSS via an HTML editor), things that are accepted business risks, known issues, and whether or not you'll accept issues that result from pivoting. Also, remember to review and modify the 'standard exclusions' list to include any low hanging fruit (spf records, etc) that you don't want included in findings.

Ultimately, what you choose to exclude is your call, but keep in mind that it's worth reviewing your standard exclusions upfront, as your bounty brief is a work agreement between you and the researcher. Make sure it is complete to ensure a successful program!



Company Name

Describe yourself

$200 - $5,000 Per Bug

Program Details

We strive to keep abreast on the latest state-of-the-art security developments by working with security researchers and companies and appreciate the community's efforts in creating a more secure world.

Targets

```
*.domain.com
```

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API
```

```
MISC applications
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Please explain your listed targets. Leave nothing to interpretation - and be sure you know and understand your attack surface.

Focus Areas

Use this space to draw attention to the things you care about. For instance, if you want researchers to focus on testing the API, mobile app, specific functionality (e.g. payment processing), or targets

Out-of-Scope

Use this area to talk about what you don't care about. Be sure to mention things that might be intended functionality (e.g. XSS via an HTML editor), things that are accepted business risks, known issues, and whether or not you'll accept issues that result from pivoting

The following finding types are specifically excluded from the bounty:

Please be sure to review these standard exclusions to ensure that they're things that you don't care about -- additionally, you're free to add to this list as you see fit
- Descriptive error messages (e.g. Stack Traces, application or server errors).
- HTTP 404 codes/pages or other HTTP non-200 codes/pages.
- Fingerprinting / banner disclosure on common/public services.
- etc.

Rewards:

Rewards are administered according to the following guidelines:
- XSS: $XXX–$XXX
- CSRF: $XXX–$XXX
- SQL: $XXX–$XXXXX
- Etc.

Rules

This bounty follows Bugcrowd's standard disclosure terms

Rewards

In order to meet your organization's unique goals, there are a variety of ways to peak the interest of researchers - brand recognition, interesting targets, leaderboard recognition, and of course, cash rewards.

We encourage all customers to offer cash rewards, as in general, programs with higher minimum rewards and/or higher reward ranges are more likely to receive more attention. Our recently released Defensive Vulnerability Pricing Model provides baseline recommendations on what to pay based on security maturity and submission priority.

For more mature programs, we also encourage defined program rewards for vulnerability types based on priority. For guidance, see the Bugcrowd Vulnerability Rating Taxonomy.

Disclosure + Rules

While Bugcrowd believes public disclosure to be an important part of the vulnerability reporting ecosystem and encourage our clients to work with researchers to disclose issues once a fix is released, we support our customers' individual disclosure policies.

Bugcrowd's default disclosure policy is Nondisclosure. Under this policy researchers are required to receive explicit customer permission to publicly disclose any submission, including those marked as Duplicate, Out-of-Scope or 'N/A.' Customers also have the option to select Coordinated Disclosure or Custom Disclosure policies for their program.

Lastly, consider your business' unique use cases. Do you need to add additional rules to your program that don't fall into one of the aforementioned categories?

This image is a simplified representation of a public bug bounty brief. View example briefs by companies running public programs like Pinterest, Tesla, Western Union, Fitbit, Dropbox, Indeed, Jet.com and more: https://bugcrowd.com/programs.