



Fraud in Health and Human Services (HHS) FAQ

What is fraud?

Fraud is an intentional deception resulting in the financial or personal gain of monies, goods, or services.

What is the False Claims Act?

A federal statute created to decrease fraud. This act allows the government to pursue additional monetary penalties when fraud is substantiated.

What is a grant?

A grant is a financial award given by a federal, state, or local government to fund or benefit a project. Examples include Medicaid.

What is a contract?

A contract provides goods and services. Examples may include business owners selling their products to federal or local government agencies.

How may grant and contract funds be used?

Grant and contract funds must be used for their intended purposes, as described in the grant or contract documentation.

Who is an HHS Contracting Officer?

A person assigned to manage individuals and/or businesses awarded HHS contracts. This person is the only person who can adjust a contract after it is awarded.

What type of liability can someone face if an HHS contract is violated?

Civil or criminal.

Are HHS contract awardees required to self-disclose if they find a False Claim violation or overpayment?

Yes, in writing to the contracting officer and the Office of the Inspector General.