



False Claims Act

The False Claims Act (FCA) is a federal law that prohibits knowingly presenting (or causing to be presented) a false or fraudulent claim to the federal government or its contactors, including state Medicaid agencies, for payment or approval. The FCA also prohibits knowingly making or using (or causing to be made or used) a false record or statement to get a false or fraudulent claim paid or approved. When AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania submits claims data to the government for payment (for example, submitting Medicaid claims data to the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare), we must certify that the data is accurate to the best of our knowledge. We are also responsible for claims data submitted on our behalf from our subcontractors, and we monitor their work to ensure compliance. The FCA encourages whistleblowers to come forward by providing protection from retaliation and rewards. Penalties for violating The False Claims Act could include a minimum \$5,500 to \$11,000 fine per false claim, imprisonment, or both, and possible exclusion from Federal Government health care programs.

The Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009 (FERA) was passed by Congress to enhance the criminal enforcement of federal fraud laws, including the False Claims Act (FCA). Penalties for violations of FERA are comparable to penalties for violation of the FCA. FERA does the following:

- Expands potential liability under the FCA for government contractors like AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania
- Expands the definition of false/fraudulent claim to include claims presented not only to the government itself, but also to a government contractor like AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania
- Expands the definition of false record to include any record that is material to a false/fraudulent claim
- Expands whistleblower protections to include contractors and agents who claim they were retaliated against for reporting potential fraud violations

To report or refer suspected cases of Fraud and Abuse you may contact AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania's Fraud and Abuse Hotline by:

Phone:

1-866-833-9718 Corporate and Financial Investigations

Mail:

AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania
200 Stevens Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19113

OR

Contact The Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare through one of the following methods:

Phone: 866-DPW-TIPS (866-379-8477)

On-line: www.state.pa.us/

E-mail: omaptips@state.pa.us

Fax: 1-717-772-4655, Attn: OMAP Provider Compliance Hotline

Mail: Bureau of Program Integrity

OMAP Provider Compliance Hotline

P.O. Box 2675

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