

Whistleblowing (DRA Compliance)

Of the half-trillion dollars the federal government will spend on medical care this year, \$50 billion will be spent on fraudulent claims under courses such as Medicaid. In an effort to reduce Medicaid fraud, Congress included a provision in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA) requiring organizations that receive \$5 million or more in Medicaid reimbursements to inform their employees of the federal False Claims Act (FCA) and whistleblower-protection laws, as well as similar state laws.

Dating back to the Civil War Era, the FCA penalizes organizations that submit false claims for government funds. It provides significant financial incentives for employees to make a report — that is, to "blow the whistle" — if they believe that their employer has engaged in fraud.

Course Summary

This 25-minute course is intended to explain to employees when, how and why to use the whistleblowing provisions of the FCA as part of complying with the DRA. The topics covered in the course include —

- Healthcare fraud: The big picture
- Training requirements
- The False Claims Act
- *Qui tam*
- Administrative remedies
- Fraud in the healthcare context
- Evaluating a possible fraud claim
- Whistleblower protection
- Reporting fraud