

# False Claims Act

The False Claims Act is a law designed to prevent and detect fraud, waste and abuse in federal healthcare programs, for example, Medicaid. Under the False Claims Act, anyone who “knowingly” submits false claims to the government is liable for damages.

False Claims suits can be brought against individuals and entities, and do not require proof of a specific intent to defraud the government. Providers can be prosecuted for various types of conduct that lead to the submission of a false claim. Some examples include knowingly making false statements, falsifying records, submitting claims for services never performed or items never furnished, double-billing for items or services, using false records or statements to avoid paying the government, or otherwise causing a false claim to be submitted.