Honesty, Integrity, and Fairness should guide each member of our community in all actions and decisions.
UT Southwestern Medical Center is required by federal law to provide information to all of its employees, contractors, and agents regarding the federal and state false claims acts and preventing and detecting fraud and abuse in federal health care programs.
Federal Law

Under the federal False Claims Act, any person or entity that knowingly submits a false or fraudulent claim for payment of United States Government funds is liable for significant penalties and fines. Additionally, failure to refund a known overpayment can also be considered a violation of the False Claims Act.

Violations are punishable with civil penalties plus three times the amount of damages sustained by the government. Generally, the federal False Claims Act applies to any federally funded program, including, for example, claims submitted by healthcare providers to Medicare or Medicaid.

Texas Law

Offenses under the Texas False claims Act are, in general, similar to those of the federal False Claims Act. However, under the Texas Act, a person may also be liable if he/she presents a claim for payment under the Medicaid program for a product or service that was rendered by an unlicensed provider or that has not been approved by a healthcare practitioner. Additionally, Texas law provides that the civil penalty is greater for unlawful acts that result in injury to an elderly person, a disabled person, or someone younger than eighteen.
Excluded Parties

UT Southwestern does not employ, contract with or do business with any person or entity ineligible to participate in government health care programs.

Vendors, contractors, and agents must immediately notify UT Southwestern if the company or its employees become excluded parties.

Whistleblower Protections

The federal and state false claim acts allow a private person (i.e. whistleblower) with knowledge of a false claim to bring a civil action on behalf of the United States Government. UT Southwestern employees are protected by federal and state law from retaliation for reporting, in good faith, a violation of law to government entities. UT Southwestern may not suspend, terminate or threaten an employee for reporting a violation to an appropriate authority. However, the whistleblower may not be insulated from disciplinary action if it is shown that he/she is involved in the reported violation. For additional information, see Policy Handbook Chapter 3 – Ethics, Compliance, and Standards of Behavior.
Reporting Concerns

One of the primary ways that UT Southwestern identifies compliance issues is through various open reporting mechanisms. Employees are always encouraged to use the chain of command to report concerns. However, concerns may also be reported to the Office of Compliance, the UTSW Compliance Hotline, or directly to federal and state agencies. These reporting options are available to report compliance concerns or questions of any nature. For additional information, see Policy Handbook Chapter 3 – Ethics, Compliance, and Standards of Behavior.

Reports can be made to the Compliance Hotline by calling 877-507-7319. The Hotline is available on a continuous 365/24/7 basis. Each call to the Hotline is assigned a case number that can be used to follow up on the status of the investigation of a case. Each reported concern is thoroughly investigated. You may report concerns to the Hotline anonymously.

UT Southwestern Medical Center does not permit retaliation or punishment for reporting of concerns.

UT Southwestern Medical Center
Chief Compliance Officer
5323 Harry Hines Boulevard
Dallas, Texas 75390-8851
Phone: 214-648-6085
Office of Compliance
UT Southwestern Medical Center
5323 Harry Hines Boulevard
Dallas, Texas 75390-8851
214-648-6024
utsouthwestern.edu/compliance

Chief Compliance Officer
Sharon S. Parsley, J.D., M.B.A., CHC, CHRC

Compliance Hotline
You may choose to remain anonymous.

• 877-507-7319
• utsouthwestern.net/hotline