

A Lot is at Stake!

You can get cash and food benefits, medical coverage, child care assistance, job services, education and training when eligible by being **truthful** and **accurate** when providing information to the Division of Public Assistance.

Learn your reporting requirements and **REPORT CHANGES** to the Division of Public Assistance within **TEN DAYS** of when you know of the change (five days when a child leaves the home if you get Temporary Assistance).

If you commit fraud, you will **LOSE** cash and food benefits, be disqualified from the program, have to pay back benefits, or even serve jail time.

How to Report Fraud

Report fraud in writing, by telephone, in person, or online by clicking on the "Submit a Fraud Allegation Report" link at <https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/features/org/fraud.aspx>.

Allegations may be kept anonymous.

Please provide Fraud Control with as much detail as you can and answer any questions they may have.

How to Contact the Fraud Control Unit

In Anchorage: (907) 269-1060

Toll Free: 1-800-478-6406 or

1-800-478-7778, Option 7

E-Mail: fraud_allegations@alaska.gov

Mailing: 3601 C Street, Suite 200

Anchorage, AK 99503

If You Have Questions

If you have any questions regarding your Public Assistance case, call the Division of Public Assistance at 1-800-478-7778 or visit one of our offices:

Anchorage
University Center
4001 Ingra Street, Suite 131
Anchorage, AK 99503

Fairbanks
675 7th Ave., Station E
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Juneau
10002 Glacier Hwy., Suite 201
Juneau, AK 99801

Kenai
11312 Kenai Spur Hwy., Suite 2
Kenai, AK 99611

Ketchikan
2030 Sea Level Drive, Suite 301
Ketchikan, AK 99901

Kodiak
211 Mission Road, Suite 101
Kodiak, AK 99615

Nome
214 E. Front Street
Nome, AK 99762

Sitka
304 Lake Street, Suite 101
Sitka, AK 99835

Wasilla
855 W. Commercial Drive
Wasilla, AK 99654

STATE OF ALASKA
Department of Health
Division of Public Assistance

Help Us Stop Fraud!



INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FRAUD



About Fraud



The State of Alaska's Public Assistance programs are protected through the detection and prevention of fraud.

Our goal is to discourage fraud through investigation, public education and prosecuting people who put in fraudulent claims for assistance.

What is Fraud?

Fraud is **intentionally** making false statements, misrepresenting facts, or situations to get benefits a person is not eligible to receive.

A person commits fraud if they deliberately:

- ♦ *Alter or forge paperwork*
- ♦ *Conceal, misrepresent or withhold eligibility information*
- ♦ *Fail to report changes as required*
- ♦ *Speak or write false or misleading statements*

Fraud Investigations

The Fraud Control Unit of the Division of Public Assistance investigates fraudulent activity. Reports of possible fraud often come from calls from the public or agency workers.

Penalties & Consequences

For those who have committed public assistance fraud, here are the consequences they face:

Alaska Temporary Assistance Program

- 1st violation — 6-month disqualification
- 2nd violation — 12-month disqualification
- 3rd violation — Permanent disqualification

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

- 1st violation — 12-month disqualification
- 2nd violation — 24-month disqualification
- 3rd violation — Permanent disqualification

If a person makes false statements about where they live or who they are to get benefits from more than one state at the same time, they will be disqualified from the Alaska Temporary Assistance and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for 10 years.



Remember, we are here to help!

Please ask us if you have any questions about public assistance fraud.

Restitution

Offenders will be required to pay back all money they fraudulently received. This includes Medicaid and any other program services. The debt can be repaid through:

- ♦ **Recoupment**—Current monthly benefits will be reduced by 10% for the Alaska Temporary Assistance Program and 20% for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.
- ♦ **Garnishment**—Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) checks, IRS tax refunds, or paychecks may be taken away.
- ♦ **Payment Plan**—Offenders may choose a monthly payment plan.



Prosecution

Cases involving lots of money, blatant fraud, and those with prior fraud history will be referred to the Department of Law, Welfare Fraud Section for criminal prosecution.

Fraud penalties may include loss of benefits, criminal prosecutions and seizure of paychecks and PFDs!