COURSE SYLLABUS

Red Flags of Infrastructure Fraud for Investigators Course (Self-Paced)

Understand common fraud schemes and warning signs specific to Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) projects, and learn how to detect vulnerabilities before they escalate.

> Group classes (Live Online) and onsite training are available for this course. For more information, email onsite@graduateschool.edu or visit: https://www.graduateschool.edu/courses/red-flags-of-infrastructure-fraud-for-investigators-course-self-paced



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Course Outline

Module 1: Purpose and Scope of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

- Summarize the IIJA's aims, scale ($1.2T), and five-year funding horizon.
- Identify major funded sectors (roads/bridges, transit, rail, energy, water, broadband, resilience).
- Review the high-level spending plan and responsible federal agencies.
- Note links to the American Rescue Plan and implications for workforce/readiness.

Module 2: Investigator's and Reviewer's Responsibility for Fraud Awareness and Detection

- Clarify responsibilities under GAGAS/Yellow Book, CIGIE, AICPA (SAS 22/99), and related laws.
- Define fraud and elements; contrast fraud with waste and abuse.
- Apply professional skepticism: assess risk, controls, and environmental red flags throughout engagements.
- Understand reporting expectations for internal control, compliance issues, and suspected fraud.

Module 3: Fraud Schemes and Red Flags

- Recognize common IIJA fraud types: defective labor/pricing, product substitution, billing schemes.
- Detect collusion (bid-rigging, rotation, suppression, market division) using bidding/price patterns.
- Spot operational red flags: poor documentation, unusual trends, fictitious vendors, altered records.
- List evidence sources to corroborate suspicions (timecards, invoices, delivery records, payroll data).

Module 4: Federal Statutes and Remedies on Fraud Applicable to IIJA Projects

- Link schemes to statutes: 18 U.S.C. §§ 371 (conspiracy), 641 (embezzlement), 1001 (false statements), 1341/1343 (mail/wire fraud), 201 (bribery), and FCA.
- Introduce RICO, antitrust (bid-rigging/price-fixing), and program-specific offenses.
- Differentiate criminal, civil, and administrative tools: PFCRA, suspension/debarment, and referrals.
- Outline evidentiary needs to support prosecutions or administrative actions.

Module 5: Cases of Infrastructure Fraud

- Study 7 recent prosecutions (e.g., DBE pass-throughs, bid rigging, under-application of materials) and penalties.
- Connect case red flags to earlier modules to reinforce detection techniques.
- Discuss how fast-moving funds and weak controls enable repeatable schemes.
- Capture lessons learned to strengthen prevention, detection, and referrals.