

2026 FGFOA E-Bulletin

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The FGFOA Free Internet Webinar Series Presents

Fraud and Data Analytics

Thursday, April 9, 2026

2:00 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. EDT

CPE: 2 Hours TB

Field of Study: IT - Technical

Presenters:

Dr. Rebecca Shea, Director, GAO Forensic Audit & Investigative Services

Heather Dunahoo, CPA, Assistant Director, GAO Forensic Audits & Investigative Services

Mariana Calderon, GAO Assistant Director for Data Analysis, Forensic Audits & Investigative Services

Overview:

GAO estimates federal fraud losses are between \$233 billion and \$521 billion annually. (Representing 3-7% of spending) While the vast majority of federal spending is not lost to fraud, no area is immune from the risk and public sector fraud often involves other impacts, such as trust in government and national security, health, and safety risks. This webinar will provide an overview of key resources, audits, and analytic approaches for combatting fraud that have been issued by GAO's Forensic Audits and Investigative Service (FAIS) team. For example,

- FAIS has developed a variety of publicly available resources (e.g., guides, interactive website, fraud model) for combatting fraud that practitioners in program delivery, audit, and oversight can leverage.
- FAIS conducts audits using data analytics to identify indicators of fraud and control vulnerabilities. These analytic examples can provide ideas for how you might use data and AI to prevent and detect fraud.
- Our work has also found that financial and single audit findings and high improper payment rates may indicate a heightened risk for fraud. Understanding these intersections can support fraud prevention, audit, and oversight.

Learning Objectives:

After attending this webinar, participants will have an understanding of the following:

- Understand the nature of public sector fraud and leverage resources for combating it
- Learn about analytic approaches and use of AI to prevent and detect fraud
- Recognize the intersections between financial statement audits, single audit findings, improper payments, and fraud risk.



Webinar Registration

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