

COVID-19 fraud watch checklist

Agencies should have risk management teams in place to identify and assess the risks specific to the programs they administer. Risk management plans should include rolling or spot audits and grant acquittal processes.

Agencies should also be familiar with the range of NT Auditor-General's reports dealing with the administration of grants.

More broadly, agencies should be alert to:

- the need to cross-check and verify business or company registration numbers;
- the need to confirm that the business meets the criteria of grant eligibility and does trade in the Northern Territory;
- companies operating in several locations across Australia that make repeated claims using the same or different ABNs;
- individuals or business entities attempting to bribe public officers for preferential treatment;
- fraudulent claims from individuals claiming to be the proprietors of a small business;
- multiple Home Improvement Scheme grant applications by the owner of several properties;
- price gouging by suppliers engaged to perform works for grant recipients;
- individuals falsely claiming to be counsellors or psychologists;
- individuals falsely claiming to be financial advisors;
- individuals claiming to provide crisis accommodation;
- price gouging by crisis accommodation providers;
- fraudulent paperwork in relation to valid legal entity status;
- inflation of employee numbers required to complete work;
- incomplete or unfinished work claimed as completed;
- incomplete provision of details may be indicative of identity theft; and
- home-based business operators claiming against funds intended for commercial venues (restaurants, hotels, etc).