

# HEALTH ETHICS TRUST COMPLIANCE PROGRAM CERTIFICATION FACT SHEET

## COMPLIANCE PROGRAM CERTIFICATION KEY FACTS:

In the years since the Health Ethics Trust introduced Compliance Program Certification, certain questions have arisen multiple times. The following points address the most common questions.

1. Compliance Program Certification began in 2008 through the Commission on Compliance Program Effectiveness, which is a part of the Health Ethics Trust.
2. Compliance Program Certification is currently the only compliance program certification/accreditation healthcare.
3. No organization having once achieved Compliance Program Certification has been subject to a CIA/CCA during their period of Certification.
4. Certification is intended to ensure an organization's publics that they are dealing with an ethical, honest organization. Certification is normally announced publicly by the Trust and by the organization achieving Certification. Organizations achieving Compliance Program Certification are entitled to so indicate in their public information.
5. Organizations having achieved Compliance Program Certification are about equally divided between providers and plans/contractors.
6. The Health Ethics Trust does not determine an organization's Certification status. Certification is decided by a panel of peer reviewers.
7. Organizations under review can veto any proposed peer reviewer if there is a potential conflict of interests.
8. The peer review process is overseen by the Fellows of the Health Ethics Trust, approximately 25 leading CEOs and CCOs nationwide.
9. There are two elements of the review - review of documentation constitutive of the compliance program and review of actual compliance processes.
10. The Certification Report is structured as a compliance program assessment report, except that it is written by the Review Panel. The Certification Report typically includes detailed, practical recommendation written by the Review Panel.
11. The standards used by the reviewers are public. See Best Practice Standards for Compliance Programs: A Manual for Compliance Professionals - <http://www.healthethicstrust.com/bpstandards>
12. Certification is normally for a three-year period subject to a simple annual renewal. Specifically, the CCO is asked to complete a questionnaire annually to ensure that the program has not changed significantly during the certification period.
13. Even if a program does not satisfy the reviewers, there is a 90-day reconciliation period so that the organization can present additional facts and make other adjustments as necessary.
14. Only organizations with strong compliance programs typically seek Compliance Program Certification.

## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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