

Blow the whistle against fraud and corruption

As part of our continued commitment to zero tolerance towards fraud, corruption and unethical behaviour, the GEPF is urging members to join the fight against fraud today by reporting any fraudulent activities.



What is fraud?

Fraud is when deception is used to gain a dishonest advantage, which is often financial, over another person. There are many words used to describe fraud such as scam, con, swindle, extortion, sham, double-cross, hoax, cheat, ploy, ruse, hoodwink, confidence trick.



Fraud can be committed against individuals or businesses.

Fraud generally represents a non-violent, financial crime perpetrated against a business, Government or other individuals. It is an illegal act or series of illegal acts committed through non-physical means and by concealment or deviousness to obtain money or property, to avoid the payment of money or property, or to obtain personal or business advantage.

What causes fraud?

Fraud is most often a crime of opportunity committed by people who face overwhelming financial pressures. These people are usually not career criminals. While not always within their control, individuals can find themselves in financially stressful situations due to a variety of factors.

How does fraud affect the Fund?

When fraud is detected or suspected, it can have a disruptive effect on the Fund's daily activities. Worst case scenario, data could be lost or compromised; we may need new systems in place to combat the threat or recover once it has been detected; and maybe a completely new business approach may be required along with an overhaul of security measures.

This could involve new staff training and lengthy audits by the Auditor-General, possibly causing a loss of productivity. Fraud can have a substantial impact on the Fund, no matter what size it is.

Calls to the Fraud Hotline

GEPF has an independent fraud hotline 0800 203 900 where all calls are treated as strictly confidential and objective, and callers may remain anonymous if they choose.

The hotline is run from a secure location and the hotline operators have been trained to ensure that the identity of callers is protected.

Steps to report fraud in GEPF:

1. Dial 0800 203 900 toll free from any Telkom telephone
2. You may remain anonymous but please give the hotline operator full details of the fraudulent, corrupt or unethical practice that you are reporting. Such details may include:

- Who is involved or doing what?
- What has happened?
- How was it done and how often?
- Where is it done?
- When was the incident observed?
- Values involved – monetary value
- Any proof available?
- Are there any witnesses?



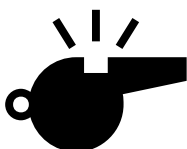
3. You will be given a reference number. Keep this number confidential as you will need it when you make a follow-up call (call at a later date to request feedback on the original call).

Anonymity is guaranteed, and the facility is managed in compliance with the Protected Disclosures Amendment Act (PDA) (Act No. 5 of 2017).

What are the types of fraud happening in GEPF?

Fraudulent activities taking place within the GEPF environment include

1. Fraudulent exits;
2. Fraudulent bank forms;
3. Fraudulent Beneficiaries; and
4. Fraudulent Payments.



"Your No to corruption counts, do the right thing blow the whistle"

GEPF Ethics and Fraud hotline number: 0800 203 900

GEPF Ethics and Fraud hotline SMS number: 30916

GEPF Ethics and Fraud hotline E-mail address: gepf@thehotline.co.za