

## **OVERVIEW**

**Job Title:** Attorney - Advisor

**Department:** Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

**Agency:** Office of Inspector General (OIG)

**Hiring Organization:** Office of Counsel to the Inspector General (OCIG)

**Open & Closing Dates:** October 31, 2024 to November 29, 2024

**Salary:** \$ 99,200 to \$ 181,216 Per Year (salary will be adjusted based on grade level)

**Pay Scale & Grade:** GS-12-14

**Locations:**

1 vacancy in the following location: Position will be located in Washington, DC at HHS OIG Headquarters

**Remote Job:** No

**Telework Eligible:** Yes

**Travel Required:** 25% or less - You may be expected to travel for this position.

**Relocation Expenses Reimbursed:** No

**Appointment Type:** Permanent

**Work Schedule:** Full-time

**Service:** Excepted

**Promotion Potential:** GS-15

**Job Family (Series):** 0905 - Attorney

**Supervisory Status:** No

**Security Clearance:** Not Required

**Drug Test:** No

**Position Sensitivity And Risk:** High Risk (HR)

## **Trust Determination Process: Credentialing, Suitability/Fitness**

### **SUMMARY**

**Summary:** This position is located in the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, Office of Counsel to the Inspector General.

### **THIS JOB IS OPEN TO:**

**Hiring Paths:** All US citizens

### **DUTIES:**

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) combats fraud, waste and abuse in HHS programs including Medicare, Medicaid, Healthcare Marketplaces, NIH, FDA, CDC, and more. OIG is the largest federal inspector general's office, employing a nationwide network of auditors, investigators, attorneys, and evaluators who provide program recommendations to decision-makers, distribute educational resources to the industry and public, and investigate cases to root out fraud. Our vision is to drive positive change in HHS programs and in the lives of the people served by these programs.

The OIG is an independent unit within HHS and reports to both the Secretary and Congress. The OIG has a statutory responsibility to provide the oversight necessary to protect the integrity of departmental programs, as well as the health and welfare of beneficiaries served by those programs. The OIG is comprised of the Immediate Office and five major components: the Office of Audit Services, the Office of Counsel to the Inspector General, the Office of Evaluation and Inspections, the Office of Investigations, and the Office of Management and Policy. Through a comprehensive program of audits, investigations, program evaluations, and other mission-related functions, OIG prevents and detects fraud, waste, and abuse, while promoting economy and efficiency in programs administered by the Department.

The Office of Counsel to the Inspector General (OCIG) provides general legal services to OIG, offering advice and opinions on HHS programs and operations, and providing all legal support for OIG's internal operations. OCIG represents OIG in all civil and administrative fraud and abuse cases involving HHS programs, including False Claims Act, program exclusion, and civil monetary penalty cases. In connection with these cases, OCIG also negotiates and monitors corporate integrity agreements. Additionally, OCIG renders advisory opinions, issues compliance program guidance, publishes fraud alerts, and provides other guidance to the healthcare industry concerning the anti-kickback statute and other OIG enforcement authorities.

OCIG seeks one attorney to work with both the Administrative and Civil Remedies Branch (ACRB) and the Industry Guidance Branch (IGB).

ACRB monitors the compliance of providers under integrity agreements, represents OIG in administrative and civil fraud enforcement actions, and defends the Inspector General in administrative appeals of exclusions. Specifically, ACRB staff negotiate and monitor Corporate

Integrity Agreements that impose integrity obligations on parties alleged to have engaged in fraudulent conduct. ACRB attorneys may also work with the Department of Justice to develop and pursue False Claims Act cases against health care providers and others that defraud the Government.

IGB drafts regulations, advisory opinions, and guidance documents that address the application of certain OIG authorities to cutting-edge health care transactions and financial arrangements.

The position will be either Associate Counsel (GS-12/13) or Senior Counsel (GS-14), depending on the attorney's level of experience. The duties of the position will include:

- Reviewing and analyzing advisory opinion requests and drafting advisory opinions.
- Drafting safe harbor regulations, compliance program guidance, special fraud alerts, and special advisory bulletins.
- Developing and promoting OIG policies and guidance regarding the Federal anti-kickback statute and Beneficiary Inducements CMP.
- Advising OIG staff and other government officials on the application of the Federal fraud and abuse laws.
- Responding to questions and issues from industry representatives regarding compliance with the Federal fraud and abuse laws.
- Representing OIG in exclusion appeal matters
- Monitoring compliance of parties under integrity agreements.
- Resolving fraud matters self disclosed to OIG.
- Representing HHS in False Claims Act cases.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

### **Conditions Of Employment:**

- U.S Citizenship is required.
- Registration with the Selective Service (if applicable).
- You may be required to serve a two-year trial period.

**Qualifications:** Applicants must meet all the qualification requirements, including education, and any selective placement factors described below within 30 days of the closing date of this announcement.

**Positive Education Requirement:** This position has an educational requirement, as indicated below. **A complete transcript showing relevant coursework and degrees must be submitted with your application package.** A list of completed courses or incomplete transcripts will not be accepted.

**Minimum Requirements:** Applicants must have graduated with a Juris Doctorate (JD) or Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association and must be a current member, in good standing of a state, territory of the United States, District of Columbia, or Commonwealth of Puerto Rico bar association.

GS-12: Applicants must have one (1) year of professional legal experience post-bar admission equivalent to at least the GS-11 grade level. Experience may be outside of the federal government.

GS-13: Applicants must have two (2) years of professional legal experience post bar admission equivalent to at least the GS-12 grade level. Experience may be outside the federal government.

GS-14: Applicants must have three (3) years of professional legal experience post bar admission equivalent to at least the GS-13 grade level. Experience may be outside the federal government.

*Highly qualified applicants will have experience as an attorney* advising and representing agencies (federal, state, or local), in the investigation and litigation related to health care fraud, employment, and whistleblower related issues. Your resume should include the dates of all qualifying experience (from month/year to month/year) and the number of hours worked/volunteered per week.

Experience refers to paid and unpaid experience, including volunteer work done through National Service programs (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps) and other organizations (e.g., professional; philanthropic; religious; spiritual; community, student, social). Volunteer work helps build critical competencies, knowledge, and skills and can provide valuable training and experience that translates directly to paid employment. You will receive credit for all qualifying experience, including volunteer experience. Your resume should include the dates of all qualifying experience (from month/year to month/year) and the number of hours worked/volunteered per week.

**Education:** Foreign Education: Education completed in foreign colleges or universities may be used to meet education requirements if you can show that the foreign education is comparable to that received in an accredited educational institution in the United States. It is your responsibility to provide such evidence when applying. Click on the link for a [list of accrediting organizations](#) recognized as specializing in interpretation of foreign education credentials.

#### **Additional Information:**

**Recruitment Incentives:** Payment for relocation expenses is not authorized for this position. A recruitment bonus will not be offered. Repayment of student loans will not be offered.

**Security and Background Requirements:** A background security investigation will be required for all appointees. Appointment will be subject to the applicant's successful completion of a background security investigation and favorable adjudication. Failure to successfully meet these requirements may be grounds for appropriate personnel action. In addition, if hired, a background security reinvestigation or supplemental investigation may be required at a later

time. Applicants are also advised that all information concerning qualifications is subject to investigation. False representation may be grounds for non-consideration, non-selection and/or appropriate disciplinary action.

**EEO Statement:** HHS is an equal opportunity employer. Selection for this position will be based solely on merit without regard to race, color, religion, age, gender, national origin, political affiliation, disability, sexual orientation, marital or family status, or other differences.

*HHS has a critical preparedness and response mission: HHS protects the American people from health threats, researches emerging diseases, and mobilizes public health programs with domestic and international partners. In support of this mission, HHS offers its employees the opportunity to volunteer to become Federal Civilian Detailees and contribute their unique skills through voluntary temporary assignments to humanitarian emergencies or Departmental priorities countering new and emerging health, safety, and security threats.*

**Benefits Link:**

<https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/benefits/>

## **HOW YOU WILL BE EVALUATED**

**How You Will Be Evaluated:**

Your application will be evaluated on the quality and extent of your experience, education (if applicable), and training relevant to the duties of this position. If you are found minimally qualified for the job, your application package will be further evaluated to determine your possession of the critical knowledge, skills, abilities, and other characteristics required for this position.

Your resume must document specialized experience and support your responses to the vacancy questions.

## **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

**Required Documents:** All applicants are required to submit the following supporting document type(s):

- Resume
- Transcripts
- Proof of Active Bar Status
- Writing sample not to exceed 5 pages

**Financial Disclosure:** This position may be subject to financial disclosure requirements and must be filed within 30 days of the appointment. For more information about Financial Disclosure and OGE Form 450, you may go to the Office of Government Ethics website at [www.oge.gov](http://www.oge.gov) and select Financial Disclosure. Frequently Asked Questions can be found at <http://www.oge.gov/Financial-Disclosure/Confidential-Financial-Disclosure-450/OGE-Form-450-FAQs/OGE-Form-450-FAQs/>.

For Most Effective Resumes Tips visit:

[https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Most\\_Effective\\_Resumes](https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Most_Effective_Resumes)

Please visit the YouTube Link for additional Tips:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bqYkibnuiJU>

**APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 11:59 pm (EASTERN TIME)  
ON November 29, 2024.**

**HOW TO APPLY:** Email application materials to: **officeofcounsel@oig.hhs.gov**, with the required documents included. Questions regarding this vacancy or the application process should be directed to Tynishia Gardner.

**This announcement may be used to fill one or more vacancies.**

**Next Steps:** The most highly qualified candidates will be referred to the hiring manager for further consideration and possible interview. You will receive notice via email or phone once this process is completed.

### **Reasonable accommodation policy**

Federal agencies must provide reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application process should contact Tynishia Gardner. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

### **Privacy Act**

Privacy Act Notice (PL 93-579): We use this information to determine qualifications for employment. This is authorized under Title 5 U.S.C. 3302 and 3361.