



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

WASHINGTON, DC 20201



January 12, 2022

Ms. Shalanda Young  
Acting Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
725 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Acting Director Young:

The Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2012 requires Inspectors General to report on the implementation of recommendations made to their agencies to address audit findings for travel and purchase cards. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance requires Inspectors General to submit their reports to OMB by January 31 of each year.

As the Act requires, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) continues to conduct periodic assessments of the travel and purchase card programs at HHS. These assessments are completed to identify and analyze risks of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases and payments.

HHS OIG issued one report during fiscal year 2021 and another in fiscal year 2022. We summarized the status of recommendations in these reports in the attached table, along with the open recommendations of a previous report. We have an ongoing audit of the purchase card program at HHS's Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs, and we expect to issue our report in fiscal year 2023.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Carla J. Lewis, Assistant Inspector General, at (202) 205-9125 or [Carla.Lewis@oig.hhs.gov](mailto:Carla.Lewis@oig.hhs.gov). Please refer to report number A-04-21-06254 in all correspondence.

Sincerely,

/Amy J. Frontz/  
Deputy Inspector General  
for Audit Services

Enclosure

cc:

Joseph Pika  
Director, Division of Payment Integrity Improvement  
OS/ASFR/Office of Finance

Manny Van Pelt  
Program Manager, Transportation Services  
Program Support Center

## Agency Progress in Implementing Audit Recommendations

### Status of Recommendations as of January 31, 2022

Agency	Card Type	Summary of Recommendations	Status/ Disposition	OIG Report Number and Issued Date
Office of the Secretary	Travel	<p>Review the lack of compliance with Federal requirements.</p> <p>Determine appropriate administrative actions to recoup (1) \$333,014 related to the authorization and use of chartered aircraft, (2) \$4,926 related to travel that started or ended in locations other than the official duty station, and (3) \$2,960 related to other excess travel costs.</p> <p>Improve processes and internal controls related to the use of chartered aircraft and ensure compliance with applicable Federal regulations and HHS policies and procedures.</p>	Open <sup>1</sup> Unimplemented	A-12-17-00002  7/11/2018
Food and Drug Administration	Travel	There were no recommendations. We assessed FDA's travel card program as low risk.	N/A	A-04-19-06235  05/07/2021
Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs	Travel	<p>Develop and distribute to staff a quick reference document that includes key staff responsibilities for coordinating and vouchering both invitational and staff travel and a requirement that staff and supervisors read and sign the HHS Travel Agreement.</p> <p>Establish an oversight program that includes approving officials reviewing and signing travel authorizations and vouchers only after verifying expenses, amounts claimed, and receipts included in the voucher; program coordinators (PCs) verify that all cardholders take the initial individually-billed account card training course and that the PCs use the online reporting from the servicing bank for potential travel card misuse and delinquency trends.</p>	Open Unimplemented	A-03-19-00501  11/18/2021

<sup>1</sup> OIG and the Office of the Secretary are in the resolution process for these findings.