



# 2026 NHCAA AWARDS PROGRAM INVESTIGATION OF THE YEAR NOMINATION CRITERIA

NHCAA invites nominations for the **2026 Investigation of the Year Award**. This distinguished award acknowledges an outstanding and effective health care fraud investigation and its impact on fraud deterrence and prevention. In particular, NHCAA encourages recognition of investigative anti-fraud efforts that feature collaboration among government agencies and health insurers. As you prepare your nomination, we encourage you to visit the [2025 Award Winners](#) page to see examples of past award-winning cases.

## Nomination Eligibility

- NHCAA [Member Organizations](#), [Affiliate Members](#), and [Government Liaison](#) agencies are eligible to submit nominations.
- Nominated investigations must be in the final adjudication/resolution stage (or have been adjudicated, resolved or closed) between August 1, 2025, and July 31, 2026.
  - *NOTE: Investigative activity may have commenced prior to August 1, 2025, but the case must be ongoing during the aforementioned timeframe.*
- Nominated investigations must include individuals employed by an NHCAA Member Organization, Affiliate Member, and/or Government Liaison agency.

## Selection Criteria and Scoring Weight

Selection of the winning nomination will be based on these criteria, but a submission need not meet every criterion to be considered.

- Scheme complexity (20%)
- Financial impact (15%)
- Impact or potential impact to patients' health or health records (15%)
- Innovative approach to the investigation (20%)
- Public/private collaboration (30%)

## Submission Instructions

- Nominations may be submitted electronically via the [online nomination form](#) or by emailing the completed [PDF nomination form](#) to [awards@nhcaa.org](mailto:awards@nhcaa.org).
- An organization may submit multiple nominations.
- The deadline for nominations for the 2026 NHCAA Investigation of the Year Award is **Monday, July 13, 2026**.

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If you have questions about the nomination or selection process, please contact NHCAA Awards Program at [awards@nhcaa.org](mailto:awards@nhcaa.org).