

Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission

Anti-Fraud Policy

Policy Statement

The MACC is committed to the prevention of fraud and the promotion of an anti-fraud culture.

The MACC operates a zero-tolerance attitude to fraud and requires Commissioners, members of the Secretariat, members of selection committees, applicants, Scholars and suppliers to act honestly and with integrity at all times, and to report all reasonable suspicions of fraud.

The MACC will investigate all instances of actual, attempted and suspected fraud committed by Commissioners, members of the Secretariat, members of selection committees, applicants, Scholars, suppliers and other third parties and will seek to recover funds lost through fraud. Perpetrators will be subject to appropriate action, including legal action.

This policy is endorsed and supported by the Commission and the FCO.

Definition of fraud

The term 'fraud' is commonly used to describe the use of deception to deprive, disadvantage or cause loss to another person or party; or secure unwarranted personal gain.

Examples include falsely claiming academic and other achievements, falsely claiming expenses, not declaring absences from the UK, failing to return accommodation deposits. Individuals can be prosecuted under the Fraud Act 2006 if they make a false representation, fail to disclose information or abuse their position.

Key responsibilities

The MACC is responsible for:

- Regularly reviewing the MACC's anti-fraud policy statement and compliance to ensure it remains effective and relevant.
- Investigating all allegations of fraud and pursuing appropriate action, including legal action.

The Secretariat is responsible for:

- Developing, implementing and maintaining adequate systems of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- Ensuring that the MACC's reputation and assets are protected against fraud.
- Reporting to the MACC on all aspects of fraud risk management including known or suspected fraud.
- Assisting in the investigation of suspected fraud.
- Monitoring compliance with internal controls and agreed policies and procedures.

Reporting suspicions

Commissioners, members of selection committees, applicants, Scholars, Secretariat & FCO staff must report concerns about actual, attempted or suspected fraud to the MACC Executive Secretary or Chair. Individuals should not attempt to investigate any fraud themselves.

The Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 protects employees who raise concerns about certain matters of public interest in good faith. Staff can obtain free independent advice from the charity Public Concern at Work on 020 7404 6609 (www.pcaaw.org.uk).