

Fines and Enforcement

One possible result of an inspection is the imposition of a fine based on the scope and severity (or category) of the violation. A **State Enforcement Matrix** is used to determine the appropriate fine level.

Facilities have the legal right to appeal the imposition of fines and other enforcement actions through the Office of Administrative Hearings (OSAH).

**Georgia Department of Community Health – Healthcare Facility Regulation Division
State Enforcement Matrix (Enforcement Rules, Chapter 111-8-25)**

<p>Category I Violations</p> <p>Violation which has caused death or serious physical or emotional harm or poses an imminent and serious threat to the physical or emotional health and safety of one or more persons in care.</p>	<p align="center">J</p> <p>PoC + Fine (at low end of allowable) per violation*</p> <p>Consider other sanction options</p> <p>\$601</p>	<p align="center">K</p> <p>PoC + Fine (at middle of allowable per violation)*</p> <p>Consider other sanction options</p> <p>\$800</p>	<p align="center">L</p> <p>PoC + Fine (at highest allowable) per violation*</p> <p>Consider other sanction options</p> <p>\$1000</p>
<p>Category II Violations</p> <p>Violation which has direct adverse effect on the physical or emotional health and safety of one or more persons in care.</p>	<p align="center">G</p> <p>PoC + Fine (at low end of allowable) per violation*</p> <p>Consider other sanction options</p> <p>\$301</p>	<p align="center">H</p> <p>PoC + Fine (at low end of allowable) per violation*</p> <p>Consider other sanction options</p> <p>\$450</p>	<p align="center">I</p> <p>PoC + Fine (at low end of allowable) per violation*</p> <p>Consider other sanction options</p> <p>\$600</p>
<p>Category III Violations</p> <p>Violation which indirectly or over a period of time has or is likely to have an adverse effect on the physical or emotional health and safety of one or more persons in care OR violation of administrative, reporting, or notice requirements.</p> <p>Follow-up required for E level or higher.</p>	<p align="center">D</p> <p>PoC</p>	<p align="center">E</p> <p>PoC</p> <p>Consider other sanction options</p> <p>\$150</p>	<p align="center">F</p> <p>PoC + Fine (at highest allowable) per violation*</p> <p>Consider other sanction options</p> <p>\$300</p>
<p>Substantial Compliance</p> <p>No follow-up required.</p> <p>No enforcement action if these are the only violations.</p>	<p align="center">A</p> <p>No PoC Required</p>	<p align="center">B</p> <p>PoC</p>	<p align="center">C</p> <p>PoC</p>
Severity Level	Initial	Subsequent	Repeat

Initial violation: Same or a substantially similar violation has not been cited within the past 24 months.

Subsequent violation: Same or a substantially similar violation has been cited once within the past 24 months.

Repeat violation: Same or a substantially similar violation has been cited twice within the past 24 months.

*Multiple violations resulting from the same act, omission, incident, circumstance, or conduct, are not charged per violation, but are charged at the highest category for which a violation is cited as a result of that act, omission, incident, circumstance or conduct.