



The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA.
Office of the Vice President for Research & Partnerships

Dear Colleagues:

As I am sure you are all aware, if a budget deal is not passed in time, the federal government is at risk of shutting down when the current governmental fiscal year ends on September 30, 2023. While we hope for a timely resolution, we would like to outline some potential impacts on our research enterprise, specifically on federal proposals and awards in the event of a shutdown.

We expect that a short-term or temporary shutdown, should it take place, will not significantly impact most of our research activities. The Office of Research Services has worked diligently to ensure that federally sponsored research funding that has already arrived at OU is available to support projects without interruption.

However, should a government shutdown occur, pending federal awards may be impacted, including proposals in review, new submissions, progress and financial reports, and new funding allocation. In brief, here are some of the impacts we are anticipating:

- Most federal agency staff will likely be furloughed and unable to access their government email. Inquiries about upcoming deadlines, proposal preparation and applications, or actions requiring prior approval will likely go unanswered until the shutdown is resolved.
- Agencies will be prohibited from issuing new grants, contracts, or amendments, including continued funding increments, supplements, or no-cost time extensions requiring explicit prior approval from the federal awarding agency.
- Federal agencies' proposal review processes will be delayed.
- Federal grant payments will be delayed.
- Research projects and university employees who will be most directly impacted are those with the closest ties to a federal agency or federal employees. For example, cooperative agreements with a federal research partner, students receiving direct stipends from the federal government under training grants, and OU projects or OU employees working on-site at a federal facility such as the National Weather Center should work with their supervisors for the latest updates on access.

We encourage those of you with federally sponsored research projects to reach out to your program manager before September 30, 2023, with any questions you may have should service be disrupted, especially those of you who have active projects coming to a close in the next few months.



Principal Investigators should continue to meet all deadlines outlined in their awards and should be able to submit annual and final project reports and project outcomes reports via research.gov.

Once the shutdown is lifted, delays are to be expected as the federal government resumes its operations. We are monitoring the situation and will keep you apprised.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tomás Díaz de la Rubia
Vice President for Research and Partnerships
The University of Oklahoma