



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

October 1, 2025

Dear Colleagues:

The federal government shut down has begun. The content below outlines some potential impacts on federal proposals and awards in the event of a shutdown.

We expect that a short-term or temporary shutdown will not significantly impact most of our research activities at the University of Oklahoma. The Office of Research Services (ORS) and the Office of Research Administration (ORA) have done a tremendous job to ensure that federally sponsored research funding that has already arrived at OU is available to support projects without interruption.

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

- Most federal agency staff will likely be impacted and unable to access their government email. Inquiries about upcoming deadlines, proposal preparation and applications, and 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 with the closest ties to a federal agency or federal employees will be most directly impacted. This includes employees with 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 in federal space, such as in the National Weather Center, for example.

Principal Investigators should continue to meet all deadlines included in their awards and should be able to submit annual and final project reports and project outcomes reports via the appropriate portal, such as grants.gov or Commons.

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. For additional FAQ and updates, please visit: <https://www.ou.edu/resources/executive-order-faq>.

Sincerely,

Matt Hulver, Ph.D.

Vice President for Research and Partnerships

