



October 13, 2025

To: Faculty, Principal Investigators, and Research Administrators

Subject: Federal Government Shutdown – Sponsored Projects Continuity and Compliance

Dear Colleagues,

As the federal government shutdown enters its third week, the Division of Research remains committed to ensuring continuity, compliance, and risk mitigation for all sponsored projects. We are adhering to standard protocols and have developed an Internal Workflow Plan to guide operations during this period. The plan is accessible at: [Federal Shutdown Internal Workflow Plan](#).

Continuity of Funded Projects

Projects with obligated funds may continue without disruption unless otherwise notified. However, institutions are *not authorized to spend beyond currently allotted funds and cannot continue performance beyond the funded period*. No additional funding will be added to awards until appropriations resume for available incremental budget periods. Thus, contingency accounts for pre-award spending will not be approved during the shutdown. Principal Investigators are advised to inform their research staff, students, and subawardees of the potential impacts.

Travel and Federal Engagements

Federal agencies have issued notifications regarding the suspension of activities requiring access to federal facilities. All in-person federal meetings are paused until further notice. Any essential travel related to grant activities must be reviewed and approved by the respective college dean or their designee.

Effort Certification and Allocation of Credit

Principal Investigators are required to review and confirm the allocation of credit and sponsored funded effort associated with their sponsored projects. This review must ensure that:

- The allocation of credit accurately reflects the contributions of all investigators and assures that the distribution of recovered F&A is correct. For instructions to verify contact [Contracts & Grants](#).
- The distribution of sponsored funded effort aligns with actual effort committed to the project and must be certified via N.C. A&T's web-based application [eCRT](#).
- All information complies with institutional policies and sponsor requirements.

Timely and accurate confirmation is essential for compliance, reporting, and recognition purposes.



Key Impacts on Research and Grants

- **New Grant Awards and Delays:** Federal agencies are unable to issue new grants, contracts, or funding increments. This may delay proposal reviews and announcements.
- **Federal Grant Systems:** Online platforms such as Grants.gov, Research.gov, and NIH eRA Commons may experience limited functionality or be inaccessible.
- **Existing Awards:** Work on fully funded awards may continue unless a stop-work order is issued. If such an order is received, notify the [Office of Sponsored Programs \(OSP\)](#) immediately. Reimbursement for incurred costs may also be delayed.
- **Agency Communication:** Most federal program officers and grants management staff are furloughed. Expect delays in responses.
- **Reporting Requirements:** Reporting deadlines remain in effect, even if agency staff are unavailable to receive submissions.

Recommended Actions

- **Submit Proposals:** Continue submitting proposals per agency deadlines. Meet with your college's Associate Dean for Research to establish a grantsmanship plan.
- **Review Active Awards:** Confirm the funding status of your projects. For questions, contact your [contracts and grants accountant](#).
- **Communicate with Your Team:** Ensure your research staff, students, and subawardees are informed of the shutdown and its implications.

We will continue to provide updates via our [website](#) and direct communications as the situation evolves. Thank you for your continued dedication and resilience during this time.

Sincerely,

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