Grants and Awards During the Partial Government Shutdown

The federal government remains in partial shutdown, with the President refusing to sign any spending bill that doesn’t include funding for the U.S. – Mexico border wall. Numerous federal agencies that are important to higher education were shut down. The shutdown applies to agencies that are not covered by appropriations bills already signed into law. The bill for the Education Department has been signed into law, and so that agency and the student aid funds it provides should not be affected. That same bill also includes the National Institutes of Health, a major provider of research grants.

Many other funding agencies that make numerous grants to higher education – including the National Science Foundation (NSF), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Agriculture, and Homeland Security (DHS) and more– are funded by appropriations bills that have not been signed into law. So these agencies are effectively closed.

The effect of this partial shutdown on grant making and awards depends on the policies of the agency. Information on how different agencies approach funding stoppages can be found in their contingency plans, located here: https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/information-for-agencies/agency-contingency-plans/

When funding is shut down for an agency, generally all non-essential activities are placed on hold, including most grants and awards processes and communications. While no award can be made or drawn down for the moment, current grantees may spend or act on awards they’ve already received as long as they are not dependent on additional government input. To date, grant proposal deadlines have not been affected. RESP will keep individual project director applicants informed should their deadline shift.

Local and state government agencies are not affected by the government shutdown. Do not miss new requests for proposals in your area. Register for the daily notification now at: https://govdirections.com/users/register/activate

As the information is published regarding the federal government shutdown, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs will forward the communication. If you have any questions that we can address, please email to research@csuchico.edu.

Thank you,

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