

RESEARCH & INNOVATION

MEMORANDUM

DATE: Oct. 1, 2025

TO: Administrators & Faculty

FROM: Joseph A. Heppert, Ph.D.
Vice President for Research & Innovation



SUBJ: Federal government shutdown: guidance for sponsored projects
(effective Oct. 1, 2025)

Congress did not pass FY26 appropriations, and the federal government shut down on Oct. 1, 2025. Federal agencies are operating under their contingency plans, which dictate program-by-program operations and may affect some research activities and processing timelines.

Sponsored projects operations:

- **Most projects may continue as planned unless you receive a direct agency instruction to pause.** If you receive a stop-work notice, contact the [Office of Research Services \(ORS\)](#) immediately. ORS and Accounting Services will coordinate case-by-case responses.
- **Proposal submissions:** Federal systems such as Grants.gov may accept and store applications during the shutdown, but many agencies will not review or process them until operations resume. Meet announced deadlines unless your agency states otherwise.
- **New awards:** New federal awards generally will not be issued during the shutdown. ORS will alert affected PIs if agencies publish exceptions or updated directions.
- **Closeouts & reporting:** If your award is scheduled to close during the shutdown, continue to submit deliverables by the original deadlines. ORS will track agency-specific deviations and any system outages that limit submissions. We will advise impacted PIs accordingly.

For questions or if you receive any agency notice related to this shutdown, please contact ORS immediately. We hope this shutdown will be short. If the lapse extends beyond a brief period, the Office of Research and Innovation will provide additional, step-by-step guidance tailored to each agency and award type—including allowable spending within obligated funds, salary continuity/bridging options, proposal and report deadline adjustments, travel allowability, closeout timing and protocol-specific considerations. We'll publish updates on the ORS site and email impacted PIs directly. We will continue to post updates at [Office of Research Services](#) | [Research Home](#) | [TTU](#).

