

Federation of Social Workers IUE~CWA 81381

THE UNION REVIEW

CWA Public, Healthcare & Education Workers

Last night, the Trump Administration issued a memo to all heads of executive departments and agencies illegally requiring a so-called "pause" in all federal grants and loans. This radical attack is far reaching and stops vital funding streams to, among other things: cancer research and care, Meals on Wheels and food aid, addiction treatment, pre-k, scientific research, homelessness support, and the list goes on and on. The scope of the order is so broad that we are hearing reports from members in Medicaid offices that Medicaid portals are shut down-closing access to health insurance to 72 million people nationwide.

Thousands of our members in state and local government, and in higher education institutions, work to implement these programs, and tens of millions of Americans rely on them. Livelihoods and lives are at stake. This order must be rejected and refused, and the Administration must reverse it, immediately.

CWA is mobilizing to ensure that our members and the programs and services we provide are protected. Please join us tomorrow, Wednesday January 29 at 4pm est for an emergency briefing and our plan to push back. We will share up-to-date information about the order and its implementation, a read out of the political situation, and actions our members can take.

We understand that with the flood of actions and orders coming from the White House that we must not succumb to a sense of panic and chaos. However, this action-in scope, urgency, and impact-is critical to respond to forcefully.

Solidarity -Margaret Cook, Vice-President CWA Public, Healthcare and Educations Workers



Register for the briefing using the link below or the QR code:

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/n 1k9FVpQOelPaNw29VB1g



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More information on the order

- ◆ These orders are far reaching and, in the short term, will affect state cash flow and could cause significant harm. Longer term, the programs on the chopping blocks, broadly defined, also provide substantial revenue to states/local governments, though it is unclear the extent to whether the vague threats included in this memo will result in long-term cuts to programs such as K12 education, HUD, community block grants, poverty assistance, and more.
- State and Local government budgets rely heavily on federal funds to provide critical poverty assistance and run essential programs and services. On average, total state budgets include 15-25% from federal funds.
- ◆ In December 2024, our partners at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) shared various resources to help us prepare for this moment. One of them is a spreadsheet of 2023 federal funds in all states, including tabs with high-level analysis by category, and lists of all the individual federal programs/grants/contracts. You can download this spreadsheet using the link below and use it to track the programs currently threatened by the Trump agenda in your state.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Acvt3MIHhoTxcYBEg7dRImiSzBY6iN0V

 CBPP's 2025 Congressional Legislative agenda and the overview they sent along with the resources provides additional resources and high-level analysis on what to expect/prepare for.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iWmOHU3WQsoP8XEMDCadthCHzbMSb63K

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1e6ipY2ruuXhteDkQLpS8UimRlbd57eXyzbNy2V8zNc8



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OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

January 27, 2025

M-25-13

MEMORANDUM FOR HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FROM: Matthew J. Vaeth, Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget Management

SUBJECT: Temporary Pause of Agency Grant, Loan, and Other Financial Assistance

Programs

The American people elected Donald J. Trump to be President of the United States and gave him a mandate to increase the impact of every federal taxpayer dollar. In Fiscal Year 2024, of the nearly \$10 trillion that the Federal Government spent, more than \$3 trillion was Federal financial assistance, such as grants and loans. Career and political appointees in the Executive Branch have a duty to align Federal spending and action with the will of the American people as expressed through Presidential priorities. Financial assistance should be dedicated to advancing Administration priorities, focusing taxpayer dollars to advance a stronger and safer America, eliminating the financial burden of inflation for citizens, unleashing American energy and manufacturing, ending "wokeness" and the weaponization of government, promoting efficiency in government, and Making America Healthy Again. The use of Federal resources to advance Marxist equity, transgenderism, and green new deal social engineering policies is a waste of taxpayer dollars that does not improve the day-to-day lives of those we serve.

This memorandum requires Federal agencies to identify and review all Federal financial assistance¹ programs and supporting activities consistent with the President's policies and requirements.² For example, during the initial days of his Administration, President Donald J. Trump issued a series of executive orders to protect the American people and safeguard valuable taxpayer resources, including *Protecting the American People Against Invasion* (Jan. 20, 2025), Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid (Jan. 20, 2025), Putting America First in International Environmental Agreements (Jan. 20, 2025), Unleashing American Energy (Jan. 20, 2025), Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing (Jan. 20,

¹ 2 CFR 200.1 defines Federal financial assistance to mean "[a]ssistance that recipients or subrecipients receive or administer" in various forms, but this term does not include assistance provided directly to individuals. For the purposes of this memorandum, Federal financial assistance includes: (i) all forms of assistance listed in paragraphs (1) and (2) of the definition of this term at 2 CFR 200.1; and (ii) assistance received or administered by recipients or subrecipients of any type except for assistance received directly by individuals.

² Nothing in this memo should be construed to impact Medicare or Social Security benefits.



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2025), Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government (Jan. 20, 2025), and Enforcing the Hyde Amendment (Jan. 24, 2025). These executive orders ensure that Federal funds are used to support hardworking American families.

To implement these orders, each agency must complete a comprehensive analysis of all of their Federal financial assistance programs to identify programs, projects, and activities that may be implicated by any of the President's executive orders. In the interim, to the extent permissible under applicable law, Federal agencies **must temporarily pause** all activities related to obligation or disbursement of all Federal financial assistance, and other relevant agency activities that may be implicated by the executive orders, including, but not limited to, financial assistance for foreign aid, nongovernmental organizations, DEI, woke gender ideology, and the green new deal.

This temporary pause will provide the Administration time to review agency programs and determine the best uses of the funding for those programs consistent with the law and the President's priorities. The temporary pause will become effective on January 28, 2025, at 5:00 PM. Even before completing their comprehensive analysis, Federal agencies must immediately identify any legally mandated actions or deadlines for assistance programs arising while the pause remains in effect. Federal agencies must report this information to OMB along with an analysis of the requirement. OMB also directs Federal agencies to pause all activities associated with open NOFOs, such as conducting merit review panels.

No later than February 10, 2025, agencies shall submit to OMB detailed information on any programs, projects or activities subject to this pause. Each agency must pause: (i) issuance of new awards; (ii) disbursement of Federal funds under all open awards; and (iii) other relevant agency actions that may be implicated by the executive orders, to the extent permissible by law, until OMB has reviewed and provided guidance to your agency with respect to the information submitted.

OMB may grant exceptions allowing Federal agencies to issue new awards or take other actions on a case-by-case basis. To the extent required by law, Federal agencies may continue taking certain administrative actions, such as closeout of Federal awards (2 CFR 200.344), or recording obligations expressly required by law.

Additionally, agencies must, for each Federal financial assistance program: (i) assign responsibility and oversight to a senior political appointee to ensure Federal financial assistance conforms to Administration priorities; (ii) review currently pending Federal financial assistance announcements to ensure Administration priorities are addressed, and, subject to program statutory authority, modify unpublished Federal financial assistance announcements, withdraw any announcements already published, and, to the extent permissible by law, cancel awards already awarded that are in conflict with Administration priorities, and; (iii) ensure adequate oversight of Federal financial assistance programs and initiate investigations when warranted to identify underperforming recipients, and address identified issues up to and including cancellation of awards.