

## **Partial Government Shutdown and What it Means to You**

The partial government shutdown that began before the holidays is still underway and it looks like it may be a while before everything reopens.

We wanted to share some information to help guide you through this uncertain time.

Federal agencies that did not have a signed 2019 budget before the shutdown began are closed or partially shut down. That means most of the agencies are not responding to email, giving awards or responding to questions. Each agency has its own response to the situation and many have posted instructions via their social media channels or their websites.

At this time, the following agencies are closed : NASA, National Science Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities and the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Justice, State and Transportation, Department of the Treasury, Environmental Protection Agency, Food and Drug Administration, NOAA, and the US Geological Survey.

The Department of Health and Human Services, which includes the National Institutes of Health, was funded before the shutdown, so they are fully operational.

So what should you do?

**Ongoing research projects:** Keep doing what you are doing unless you have received other instructions from your research administrator or your agency program officer. If you receive any correspondence from your sponsor regarding the shutdown, please notify the Office of Research immediately by emailing [osp@ucf.edu](mailto:osp@ucf.edu) with details and let your college research administrator know as well.

**Agency prior approvals:** If you did not hear from your agency before the shutdown, it is unlikely you will hear anything during this time. No action should be taken. If you have an emergency situation contact your research administrator immediately so we can help you.

**Proposal submissions:** Grants.Gov, Research.Gov, Fastlane and ezFedGrants are accepting proposals during the shutdown, which means it is unlikely deadlines will be extended. We recommend you continue to work with your research administrators to submit your proposals on time.

**Technical Reporting:** This should be business as usual. If your electronic submission process will not accept a report, note the day and time you tried to submit and resubmit once the shutdown is over. We strongly recommend you note that you attempted to file your report and provide day and time.

**New Awards/Extensions:** We don't expect any new awards until the shutdown is over and even then, it will take a while for agencies to work through their backlog. You may continue to make requests, but at most agencies there is no one there to approve anything. Remember you and your department are responsible for any overdrafts.

We are monitoring the situation and will communicate any big changes or potential negative impacts that we anticipate.

If you are concerned about a pending proposal, or have an award from one of the impacted agencies and have heard from your program or administrative officer, please email the Office of Sponsored Programs Award Receipt Inbox at [osp@ucf.edu](mailto:osp@ucf.edu) and we will follow up. Alternatively, you may contact the Director of Sponsored Programs, Jennifer Shambrook at 407-823-0387.