To All NASA Grant and Cooperative Agreement Recipients,

As you are aware, annual funding for the Government expires at midnight on September 30th. If a lapse in funding were to occur, all NASA installations would be forced to shut down with limited exemptions for specifically excepted activities. Your institution would then receive formal notification of the shutdown from the NASA Shared Services Center’s Procurement Office. Included in the formal notification, would be specific guidance regarding the performance of work under your grant or cooperative agreement during the shutdown period.

The purpose of this message is to informally update your institution with available information regarding the potential impact such a shutdown could have on your grant or cooperative agreement.

Whether or not a grant or cooperative agreement recipient will be able to continue to perform work under their NASA grant or cooperative agreement during a Government shutdown will depend on whether (1) access to a NASA installation or (2) participation of NASA personnel is required by the recipient in order to perform that work.

Recipients that do not require access to a NASA installation or participation of NASA personnel in order to perform work in support of the instrument’s stated research, training, or educational objectives, may continue to perform such work, provided there is available funding. Special Condition §1260.53 Incremental Funding of your grant or cooperative agreement specifies the total amount of funding that has been allotted to your grant or cooperative agreement.

For those recipients that do require access to a NASA installation or participation of NASA personnel in order to perform work in support of the instrument’s stated research, training, or educational objectives, that work must be suspended while the NASA installation is shut down unless the work can be successfully performed at an off-site location (non-NASA installation) and without the participation of NASA personnel.

Recipients are reminded that the Agency is not obligated to reimburse your institution for the expenditure of amounts in excess of the total funds allotted to your grant or cooperative agreement. Your institution is not authorized to continue performance beyond that period covered by the allotted funding and is cautioned to closely manage all available funding, as additional funding would not be provided while the Agency is without appropriations. Any work performed during this time period would need to be carefully planned, taking into account that NASA technical and administrative personnel would not be available to support those activities during a Government shutdown.

Again, if a Government shutdown were to occur, your institution would receive formal notification of the shutdown from the NASA Shared Services Center’s Procurement Office. Included in the formal notification, would be specific guidance regarding the performance of work under your grant or cooperative agreement during the shutdown period.

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Research Activities Branch
Procurement Office
NASA Shared Services Center