



Timeline of Executive Branch Actions Bearing on Federally Funded Research and Public Health Activities

January 20 – 24, 2025:

- President Trump issues a series of [executive orders](#) (below) aimed at reducing federal spending, increasing oversight of federal programs, and meeting other Presidential objectives.
 - [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, 2025)
 - [Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government](#) (Jan. 20, 2025)
 - [Enforcing the Hyde Amendment](#) (Jan. 24, 2025)

January 21, 2025:

- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Acting Secretary Dorothy A. Fink, MD, issues a directive, [Immediate Pause on Issuing Documents and Public Communications](#), in effect through February 1.

January 27, 2025

- OMB issues a [memo](#) directing all federal agencies to pause spending on funding tied to the executive orders, leading to confusion about its scope and implementation. This pause is set to take effect on January 28, 2025, at 5:00 PM EST and requires agencies to submit detailed information to OMB by Feb. 10, 2025, on all projects or activities affected by the pause.

January 28, 2025:

- **Morning:** OMB issued a [52-page document](#) requiring federal agencies to conduct a comprehensive review of all financial assistance programs to identify those implicated by the President's executive orders. Agencies must temporarily pause obligations and disbursements related to programs, including those tied to foreign



aid, NGOs, DEI initiatives, gender-related policies, and environmental programs, while reporting planned disbursements through March 15. Responses are due by February 7, with agencies also required to designate senior political appointees to oversee compliance.

- OMB [clarified](#) that the funding pause applies only to programs directly impacted by specific Executive Orders, excluding programs providing direct benefits to individuals such as Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, SNAP, student loans, Pell Grants, and Head Start, while urging agencies to consult OMB for guidance on potential exceptions.
- **Afternoon:** A coalition of nonprofits and small businesses files a [lawsuit](#) in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, challenging the legality of the OMB's funding pause.
- 23 Democratic state attorneys general filed a separate federal [lawsuit](#) in Rhode Island challenging the spending freeze.
- **4:45 PM EST:** U.S. District Judge Loren AliKhan issues a temporary restraining order, just minutes before the 5:00 PM deadline, halting the implementation of the funding freeze. The judge schedules a hearing to further assess the legality of the OMB's directive. AliKhan's order will expire Feb. 3 at 5:00 p.m.

January 29, 2025:

- The OMB [rescinds](#) the original January 27 memorandum. However, the administration indicates that the review of federal financial assistance programs will continue, and agencies are advised to await further guidance.
- White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt [tweets](#) that agencies must still identify and pause funding subject to the executive orders, creating further confusion.
- U.S. District Judge John McConnell Jr. indicated he is inclined to block the federal funding freeze, citing concerns that its effects could persist despite the OMB memo being rescinded. He instructed the 23 state attorneys general who sued the Trump administration to draft a restraining order to protect states and organizations relying on federal funds. The Justice Department will have 24 hours to respond once the proposed order is submitted.

February 3, 2025:

- A hearing is scheduled for 11:00 AM to further assess the legality of the OMB's directive and to determine the future of the funding pause.