Announcement: The House and Senate both passed a Continuing Resolution (CR) to re-open the government through February 8, 2018. As news regarding the CR and/or a federal government shutdown are released, we will pass along relevant information. In the meantime, we wanted to pass along some key information regarding various federal agencies’ contingency plans, and key information to keep in mind as we enter a CR and/or face another government shutdown.

A full list of federal contingency plans can be found here: https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/agency-contingency-plans/. Key federal agencies contingency plans can be located below:

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In addition, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has released a memorandum - Planning for Agency Operations during a Potential Lapse in Appropriations - that includes FAQs regarding grants and contracts. You will find those in Section II, pages 3-9.

As you may have noticed over the last three days, when a federal shutdown occurs:

- Grants.gov is operational and accepts applications. The Grants.gov system stores applications until such time as the responsible Agency has the authority to return to normal business operations.

- The Payment Management System is operational during the budget lapse.
  - Awards received prior to the CR and/or shutdown, will be available for drawdown and payments.
Awards that contain restrictive terms and conditions that have not been released will not be able to drawdown funds.

- The National Science Foundation’s websites and business applications (including NSF.gov, FastLane, and Research.gov) are unavailable. NSF will not be available to respond to emails or phone calls during the lapse in appropriations. Additional information is available at https://www.nsf.gov/. Key information to keep in mind during a lapse:
  
  - No new funding will be awarded.
  - You may continue working on NSF-funded projects to the extent funds are currently available and the period of performance has not expired.
  - No continuing grant increments will be made.
  - Supplemental funding requests will not be accepted.
  - Annual and final project reports will not be accepted as Research.gov will be unavailable.
  - No cost time extensions, grantee-approved or sponsor-approved, cannot be submitted or approved.

If/when federal agencies resume operations tomorrow, please keep in mind the current CR is in effect through February 8, 2018. The Department of Contracts and Grants will continue to provide updates as more information about the CR and/or shutdown becomes available.

Questions? If you have any questions regarding a specific award and the impact of the government shutdown and CR, please contact the DCG Officer assigned to your department.