
SAMHSA: Recipient Guidance During Lapse in Appropriation Act for FY 2026

From DGM Correspondence (SAMHSA) <DGMCorrespondence@samhsa.hhs.gov>

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To DGM Correspondence (SAMHSA) <DGMCorrespondence@samhsa.hhs.gov>

Dear Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Grant Recipients:

As you are aware, the Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 ended on September 30, 2025, and an Appropriation Act for FY 2026 has not yet been passed. Because a funding lapse has occurred, SAMHSA staff will not be available to provide normal oversight and administrative support services.

During the funding lapse, you may continue to work and provide services per the approved budget(s) under active SAMHSA grant programs. You may also continue drawing funds from the Payment Management System for your active SAMHSA grant programs. Please note, if you received your notice of grant award with restrictive terms and conditions, or if your drawdown request triggers one of the Payment Management System edit checks and/or the drawdown limit controls, you may not be able to drawdown funds.

If you are considering applying for additional SAMHSA federal financial assistance funding, please be advised that the Grants.gov system will be operational and will be accepting applications. Due dates on posted notices of funding opportunities are not affected by the funding lapse. For those programs subject to the funding lapse, the Grants.gov system will accept and store applications until SAMHSA has the authority and funding to return to normal business operations.

You are encouraged to stay tuned to the national media to determine when the Federal Government will resume operations. We ask for patience when trying to contact SAMHSA staff once operations resume. There may be a backlog of information to process after the funding lapse.

Below is additional information to answer questions you may have as it relates to your grant or cooperative agreement.

Systems Status:

- **eRA:** In the event of a lapse in federal appropriations, eRA systems will be operational, but with limited support, and only individuals who have been approved by HHS, Veterans Administration, and the Department of Commerce are allowed to use the eRA systems (i.e., eRA Commons and IMPAC II). Furthermore, use is restricted to excepted activities. Note that access to and use of the eRA systems during this period will be monitored. eRA will provide limited end-user support for excepted/approved staff and excepted programs.
- **Payment Management Services:** The HHS Program Support Center's Payment Management Services (PMS) will be operational and retain the necessary staffing in an excepted status to ensure delivery of grant payments. PMS will follow specific processes to ensure payment of permissible disbursements – please refer to PMS's lapse planning guidance for additional details.
- **Grants.gov:** In the event of a lapse in federal appropriations, the Grants.gov ecosystem, including the Contact Center, will remain operational. Grants.gov will function in an excepted status, with reduced federal support staff presence. Grantor support will be limited to online self-help and Tier 1 Contact Center support. Problem resolution for system-related challenges may be delayed.

Thank you for your continued partnership with HHS, SAMHSA and for your cooperation as we work together.

Sincerely,

SAMHSA