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Grant Professionals Association Highlights Ongoing Struggles Caused by Federal Government Shutdown

OVERLAND PARK, KS – The Grant Professionals Association (GPA) is calling attention to the significant and growing impact the ongoing federal government shutdown is having on the nation’s grant professionals, and, by extension, on the communities they serve.

A [recent survey conducted by GPA](#) to its members revealed that the shutdown has triggered widespread uncertainty, delays, and operational challenges in the grant sector. Members report interruptions in grant application reviews, job loss, award notifications, and reimbursement processes, all of which are vital for sustaining local and national programs.

“Grant professionals are resilient and mission-driven, but many are now facing real challenges as projects stall and payments are delayed,” said Mike Chamberlain, CEO of GPA. “Each day the shutdown continues, vital community work, from housing assistance to educational programs, is put at risk. Our members are doing everything they can to sustain services and keep their organizations stable, but the impact is significant.”

According to GPA’s member impact survey:

- More than half of the respondents have experienced delays or uncertainty about federal award timelines. Nearly two-thirds of respondents report that the shutdown has already disrupted or delayed their federal awards, with another quarter anticipating impacts soon.
- Nearly one-third report paused grant activities or halted payments to subrecipients. More than half have experienced halted payments or suspended reviews of applications and awards.
- Others note financial strain and mounting stress caused by a lack of communication with federal program officers and system closures.
- Three-quarters of GPA respondents said they have noticed changes in federal grant terms or NOFO requirements this year—compounding the uncertainty caused by the shutdown.

GPA urges federal policymakers to recognize the cascading effects of a prolonged shutdown—not only on agencies but on the nonprofits and local governments implementing federally funded projects that directly benefit communities.

“Every delay affects real people—children, families and vulnerable populations who depend on the outcomes these grants make possible,” Chamberlain added. “We stand with our members and the organizations they serve, and we will continue to advocate for solutions that restore stability to the grantmaking ecosystem.”

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The Grant Professionals Association (GPA) builds and supports community of grant professionals committed to serving the greater good through excellence in grant practice. GPA advances the field by providing education, resources, and advocacy for ethical and effective grants.

Learn more at www.grantprofessionals.org.