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Funding Gaps and Government Shutdowns: CRS Experts

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In the event of a funding gap, the potential impacts of a government shutdown would depend on a program's or agency's specific circumstances and, furthermore, how relevant law is interpreted.

Table 1 provides names and contact information for CRS subject matter experts on policy concerns and legal issues relating to funding gaps and the processes and effects that may be associated with a government shutdown.¹ Policy areas that are identified in **Table 1** include

- agencies and programs funded by specific regular appropriations bills;
- cross-cutting shutdown issues;
- domestic social policy-related programs and agencies;
- foreign affairs, defense, and trade-related programs and agencies;
- general government-related programs and agencies; and
- resources, science, and technology-related programs and agencies.

For questions concerning the impact of a shutdown on a specific agency or program that is not listed here, see the contact information for the listed “coordinators,” who will help to identify the relevant subject matter expert. See also the notes under **Table 1** for additional CRS resources.

Additional Online and Written Resources

CRS Website: Appropriations Status Table

For information about the status of funding for particular agencies and programs, see the CRS “Appropriations Status Table” at <http://www.crs.gov/AppropriationsStatusTable/Index>. Under the “Regular Appropriations” tab, the left-hand column lists the CRS reports that cover each appropriations bill. The end of each report contains contact information for CRS subject matter experts who cover agencies and programs that are funded by each bill; see a report’s “Key Policy Staff” table and list of authors, as applicable. To identify which appropriations bill provides funding for a specific agency or program, see CRS Report R40858, *Locate an Agency or Program Within Appropriations Bills*, by Justin Murray.

CRS Reports

For an annotated list of CRS resources related to the FY2014 shutdown, see CRS Report R43250, *CRS Resources on the FY2014 Funding Gap, Shutdown, and Status of Appropriations*, by Justin Murray.

For an annotated list of CRS and non-CRS resources related to past government shutdowns, including the FY2014 shutdown, see CRS Report R41759, *Past Government Shutdowns: Key Resources*, by Jared C. Nagel and Justin Murray.

For general information about the causes, processes, and effects of government shutdowns, see CRS Report RL34680, *Shutdown of the Federal Government: Causes, Processes, and Effects*, coordinated by Clinton T. Brass.

For information about funding gaps, see CRS Report RS20348, *Federal Funding Gaps: A Brief Overview*, by Jessica Tollestrup.

¹ A government shutdown is different from a debt limit impasse. A debt limit impasse occurs if the federal government no longer has the ability to borrow to finance its obligations and runs out of cash to liquidate all of the obligations that would result in federal outlays. For more information about the debt limit issue, see CRS Report R41633, *Reaching the Debt Limit: Background and Potential Effects on Government Operations*, by D. Andrew Austin et al.

For information about continuing resolutions (CRs) and related historical practices, see CRS Report R42647, *Continuing Resolutions: Overview of Components and Recent Practices*, by Jessica Tollestrup.

Table I. Funding Gaps and Government Shutdowns: CRS Experts

Legislative Issues	Name/Title	Phone	E-mail	
Agencies and programs funded by regular appropriations bills^a				
Coordinator for Agriculture and related agencies appropriations	Jim Monke Specialist in Agricultural Policy	7-9664	jmonke@crs.loc.gov	
Coordinators for Commerce, Justice, science, and related agencies appropriations	Nathan James (Justice) Analyst in Crime Policy	7-0264	njames@crs.loc.gov	
	Jennifer D. Williams (Commerce) Specialist in American National Government	7-8640	jwilliams@crs.loc.gov	
	John F. Sargent, Jr. (science agencies) Specialist in Science and Technology Policy	7-9147	jsargent@crs.loc.gov	
Coordinator for Defense appropriations	Pat Towell Specialist in U.S. Defense Policy and Budget	7-2122	ptowell@crs.loc.gov	
Coordinator for Energy and water development appropriations	Mark Holt Specialist in Energy Policy	7-1704	mholt@crs.loc.gov	
Coordinator for financial services and general government appropriations	Baird Webel Specialist in Financial Economics	7-0652	bwebel@crs.loc.gov	
Coordinator for Homeland Security Department appropriations	William L. Painter Analyst in Emergency Management and Homeland Security Policy	7-3335	wpainter@crs.loc.gov	
Coordinator for Interior, environment, and related agencies appropriations	Carol Hardy Vincent Specialist in Natural Resources Policy	7-8651	chvincent@crs.loc.gov	
Coordinators for Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations	Karen E. Lynch (overall/HHS) Specialist in Social Policy	7-6899	klynch@crs.loc.gov	
	David H. Bradley (Labor) Specialist in Labor Economics	7-7352	dbradley@crs.loc.gov	
	C. Stephen Redhead (public health, ACA) Specialist in Health Policy	7-2261	credhead@crs.loc.gov	
	Gail McCallion (Education) Specialist in Social Policy	7-7758	gmccallion@crs.loc.gov	
	Scott Szymendera (Social Security) Analyst in Disability Policy	7-0014	sszymendera@crs.loc.gov	
	Coordinator for legislative branch appropriations	Ida A. Brudnick Specialist on the Congress	7-6460	ibrudnick@crs.loc.gov
	Coordinators for military construction, Veterans Affairs, and related agencies appropriations	Daniel H. Else Specialist in National Defense	7-4996	delse@crs.loc.gov
Sidath Viranga Panangala Specialist in Veterans Policy		7-0623	spanangala@crs.loc.gov	

Legislative Issues	Name/Title	Phone	E-mail
Coordinators for State, foreign operations, and related programs appropriations	Susan B. Epstein Specialist in Foreign Policy	7-6678	sepstein@crs.loc.gov
	Alex Tiersky Analyst in Foreign Affairs	7-7367	atiersky@crs.loc.gov
	Marian L. Lawson Specialist in Foreign Assistance Policy	7-4475	mlawson@crs.loc.gov
Coordinators for Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies appropriations	Maggie McCarty Specialist in Housing Policy	7-2163	mmccarty@crs.loc.gov
	David Randall Peterman Analyst in Transportation Policy	7-3267	dpeterman@crs.loc.gov
Cross-cutting shutdown issues			
Congressional operations	Ida A. Brudnick Specialist on the Congress	7-6460	ibrudnick@crs.loc.gov
	R. Eric Petersen Specialist in American National Government	7-0643	epetersen@crs.loc.gov
Executive branch operations	Clinton T. Brass Specialist in Government Organization and Management	7-4536	cbrass@crs.loc.gov
	Michelle D. Christensen Analyst in Government Organization and Management	7-0764	mchristensen@crs.loc.gov
Judiciary operations and budget	Barry J. McMillion (operations) Analyst on the Federal Judiciary	7-6025	bmcmillion@crs.loc.gov
	Matthew Eric Glassman (budget) Analyst on the Congress	7-3467	mglassman@crs.loc.gov
Legal issues (appropriations law)	Edward C. Liu Legislative Attorney	7-9166	eliu@crs.loc.gov
	Thomas J. Nicola Legislative Attorney	7-5004	tnicola@crs.loc.gov
	Brian T. Yeh Legislative Attorney	7-5182	byeh@crs.loc.gov
Legal issues (government contracts law)	Kate M. Manuel Legislative Attorney	7-4477	kmanuel@crs.loc.gov
	Rodney M. Perry Legislative Attorney	7-5203	rperry@crs.loc.gov
Federal grants-in-aid	Natalie Keegan Analyst in American Federalism and Emergency Management Policy	7-9569	nkeegan@crs.loc.gov
Legal issues (federal grants law)	Alissa M. Dolan Legislative Attorney	7-8433	adolan@crs.loc.gov
Funding gaps, continuing resolutions (CRs), and congressional budget process	Jessica Tollestrup Analyst on Congress and the Legislative Process	7-0941	jtollestrup@crs.loc.gov
	James V. Saturno Specialist on Congress and the Legislative Process	7-2381	jsaturno@crs.loc.gov

Legislative Issues	Name/Title	Phone	E-mail
Economic and financial market issues	D. Andrew Austin Analyst in Economic Policy	7-6552	aaustin@crs.loc.gov
	Marc Labonte Specialist in Macroeconomic Policy	7-0640	mlabonte@crs.loc.gov
	Edward V. Murphy Specialist in Financial Economics	7-6201	tmurphy@crs.loc.gov
National security concerns during shutdown period	John Rollins Specialist in Terrorism and National Security	7-5529	jrollins@crs.loc.gov
Domestic social policy-related programs and agencies			
Coordinators (will help identify subject matter experts for unlisted areas)	Karen Spar Specialist in Domestic Social Policy and Division Research Coordinator	7-7319	kspar@crs.loc.gov
	Richard Rimkunas Deputy Assistant Director/Domestic Social Policy	7-7334	rrimkunas@crs.loc.gov
Affordable Care Act (ACA) insurance exchanges	Annie L. Mach Analyst in Health Care Financing	7-7825	amach@crs.loc.gov
	C. Stephen Redhead Specialist in Health Policy	7-2261	credhead@crs.loc.gov
Education and job training programs	Gail McCallion Specialist in Social Policy	7-7758	gmccallion@crs.loc.gov
Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHB)	Kirstin B. Blom Analyst in Health Care Financing	7-2397	kblom@crs.loc.gov
Federal employee retirement benefits (CSRS/FERS)	Katelin P. Isaacs Analyst in Income Security	7-7355	kisaacs@crs.loc.gov
Medicaid	Alison Mitchell Analyst in Health Care Financing	7-0152	amitchell@crs.loc.gov
Medicare	Patricia A. Davis Specialist in Health Care Financing	7-7362	pdavis@crs.loc.gov
Social Security	Dawn Nuschler Specialist in Income Security	7-6283	dnuschler@crs.loc.gov
	William R. Morton Analyst in Income Security	7-9453	wmorton@crs.loc.gov
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	Randy Alison Aussenberg Specialist in Nutrition Assistance Policy	7-8641	raussenberg@crs.loc.gov
Unemployment insurance	Julie M. Whittaker Specialist in Income Security	7-2587	jwhittaker@crs.loc.gov
Veterans benefits	Scott Szymendera Analyst in Disability Policy	7-0014	sszymendera@crs.loc.gov
Veterans health care and medical research	Sidath Viranga Panangala Specialist in Veterans Policy	7-0623	spanangala@crs.loc.gov
Foreign affairs, defense, and trade-related programs and agencies			
Coordinator (will help identify subject matter experts for unlisted areas)	Marian L. Lawson Specialist in Foreign Assistance Policy	7-4475	mlawson@crs.loc.gov

Legislative Issues	Name/Title	Phone	E-mail
Department of Defense (DOD) operations	Pat Towell Specialist in U.S. Defense Policy and Budget	7-2122	ptowell@crs.loc.gov
General government-related programs and agencies			
Coordinator (will help identify subject matter experts for unlisted areas)	Louise D. Yinug Section Research Manager	7-0459	lyinug@crs.loc.gov
Executive Office of the President (EOP)	Barbara L. Schwemle Analyst in American National Government	7-8655	bschwemle@crs.loc.gov
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Francis X. McCarthy Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-9533	fmccarthy@crs.loc.gov
Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and tax-related operations	Gary Guenther Analyst in Public Finance	7-7742	gguenther@crs.loc.gov
Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB)	Barbara L. Schwemle Analyst in American National Government	7-8655	bschwemle@crs.loc.gov
Office of Management and Budget (OMB)	Clinton T. Brass Specialist in Government Organization and Management	7-4536	cbrass@crs.loc.gov
Office of Personnel Management (OPM)	Barbara L. Schwemle Analyst in American National Government	7-8655	bschwemle@crs.loc.gov
Resources, science, and technology-related programs and agencies			
Coordinator (will help identify subject matter experts for unlisted areas)	Amy Abel Section Research Manager	7-7239	aabel@crs.loc.gov
Air safety, air traffic control, aviation/airport security, and screening issues	Bart Elias Specialist in Aviation Policy	7-7771	belias@crs.loc.gov
Highway spending issues	Robert S. Kirk Specialist in Transportation Policy	7-7769	rkirk@crs.loc.gov
Food safety issues	Renée Johnson Specialist in Agricultural Policy	7-9588	rjohnson@crs.loc.gov
Nuclear safety issues	Mark Holt Specialist in Energy Policy	7-1704	mholt@crs.loc.gov

Notes:

- a. For information about the status of funding for particular agencies and programs, see the CRS “Appropriations Status Table” at <http://crs.gov/pages/AppropriationsStatusTable.aspx>. Under the “Regular Appropriations” tab, the left-hand column lists the CRS reports that cover each appropriations bill. The end of each report contains contact information for CRS subject matter experts who cover agencies and programs that are funded by each bill; see a report’s “Key Policy Staff” table and list of authors, as applicable. To identify which appropriations bill provides funding for a specific agency or program, see CRS Report R40858, *Locate an Agency or Program Within Appropriations Bills*, by Justin Murray.

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