



## Federal Funds Update Call

Sam Rockwell & Avery Prine | Federal Funds Implementation Team

# March 27th Agenda

## Presentation (15 minutes)

1. Brief Intro to Federal Funds Implementation Team (FFIT)
2. Purpose and intent of the call series
3. Overview of federal funds response to-date
4. Topic area spotlight: **Direct Pay – Heejin Hahn from CPC Center**

## Questions and Group Discussion (15 minutes)

# Team Intro & Overview

**Mission:** Partner with Minnesota entities to access and deploy federal funds to accelerate state goals.

## The Team



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## Our Focus Areas

1. Monitor the federal landscape
2. Build & coordinate federal funding strategy
3. Monitor and evaluate federal funds deployment
4. Curate, develop & share federal funding technical assistance

# Purpose of this call

**While we can't provide clarity right now, we can:**

- Share information to facilitate risk analyses
  - Tracking reimbursement blockages
  - Tracking cancellations
  - Tracking NOFOs
  - Tracking guidance – which stem from executive orders
- Provide a space for others to share information and strategies
- Build a support network of people working through similar problems

# Recent Cancellations and Current Blockages

## Blocked Reimbursements as of 3.26.25:

Agency	# of Awards	Notes
Commerce	1	EJ G2G grant
Public Safety	20	Primarily FEMA funds – subject to manual review
Human Services	2	Substance Abuse; Mental Health Block Grant
Health	1	Homeland Security Biowatch

## Cancelled Grants as of 3.26.25:

Agency	# of Awards	Notes
Human Services	6	Covid-era funding programs
Agriculture	2	Local Food Purchase Assistance; Local Food for Schools
Health	4	Covid-era funding; Immunization for Children; Epidemiology/Lab Capacity

# In Progress: Federal Funding Disruption Tracker

## Survey to come!

### Possible Fields:

- Minnesota State Agency
- Grant Name
- Grant description
- Awarding Federal Agency
- ALN
- Payment System
- Total Award
- Funds Drawn To Date
- Costs pending reimbursement
- Est. Monthly Expenditures
- Type of disruption
- Date of initial disruption
- Reason(s) provided for the disruption
- Work stoppage?
- Contracts cancelled?
- Type of grant
- Does this grant fund a state entitlement?
- State program(s) impacted

# IIJA/IRA/Climate-related NOFO's since March 13, 2025

## Trends

- No new IIJA or IRA NOFOs released; only changes to existing notices
- New climate-related opportunities open to MN entities are research-focused
- The opportunity tracker on our website has a full list of active IIJA and IRA opportunities:  
<https://mn.gov/mmb/budget/federal-investments/>

New/Updated Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs)	Legislation	Award Ceiling	Deadline
<a href="#">Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program (Updated NOFO)</a>	IIJA	\$750,000	4/17/25
<a href="#">Community Connect Grant Program (new closing date)</a>	IIJA	\$5,000,000	4/21/25
<a href="#">Sea Grant Contaminants of Emerging Concern</a>	Other	\$1,400,000	5/23/25
<a href="#">USGS Earthquake Hazards Program External Research Support</a>	Other	\$120,000	5/28/25
<a href="#">Fire Science Innovations through Research and Education (FIRE)</a>	Other	None	6/20/25
<a href="#">National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program</a>	Other	\$1,000,000	7/18/25

## Example Guidance: Department of Labor

*“Starting on March 17, 2025, grant recipients are required to submit a justification with each payment request submitted to PMS.*

*PMS has created a new mandatory field on the payment request screen that requires for grant recipients to provide a brief justification for each payment request submitted for approval. This new field is part of the implementation of section 3 of Executive Order (EO) 14222 — [Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency" Cost Efficiency Initiative](#), which requires a brief, written justification for each payment be submitted by the agency employee who approved the payment. The grant recipient justification will help inform the agency employee justification of the payment.”*



# Supplemental Info

# Reminders/Best Practices

- Grants with signed agreements appear to be somewhat stable for the time being
- Some grants may be terminated for convenience—check terms and conditions
- Stay consistent with terms and conditions
- Get any directives in writing
- Know that calls may be recorded
- Court cases in progress
- Reporting and funding applications: anticipate use of AI screening for key words.

# AI screening for words and themes

- Analysis has shown that words associated with themes in issued executive orders and federal agency guidance are being removed or replaced on federal websites.
- Federal agencies may be conducting AI screening for these or similar words in federal grant applications and reporting.
- Applications and reports that omit these words or themes may not trigger additional review.

The New York Times			
accessible	discriminated	inclusive	privilege
activism	discrimination	inclusive leadership	privileges
activists	discriminatory	inclusiveness	promote diversity
advocacy	disparity	inclusivity	promoting diversity
advocate	diverse	increase diversity	pronoun
advocates	diverse backgrounds	increase the diversity	pronouns
affirming care	diverse communities	indigenous community	prostitute
all-inclusive	diverse community	inequalities	race
allyship	diverse group	inequality	race and ethnicity
anti-racism	diverse groups	inequitable	racial
antiracist	diversified	inequities	racial diversity
assigned at birth	diversify	inequity	racial identity
assigned female at birth	diversifying	injustice	racial inequality
assigned male at birth	diversity	institutional	racial justice
at risk	enhance the diversity	intersectional	racially
barrier	enhancing diversity	intersectionality	racism
barriers	environmental quality	key groups	segregation
belong	equal opportunity	key people	sense of belonging
bias	equality	key populations	sex
biased	equitable	Latinx	sexual preferences
biased toward	equitableness	LGBT	sexuality
biases	equity	LGBTQ	social justice