

7 KEY TAKEAWAYS

The Changing Landscape of Federal Funding in the Trump Administration

Kilpatrick's [Kate Klein](#) and [Aditya "Ditty" Shrivastava](#) recently led a webinar discussing the new [administration's approach to federal funding and its implications for grant and aid funding and policy changes](#). They explored numerous topics including, but not limited to, the rescinded federal funding freeze, agency enforcement including contract/grant terminations, policy changes affecting grant administration, and developments that may occur in the future.

Key takeaways from the presentation, include:

1

Most at-risk are federal assistance related to diversity, equity, and inclusion; green or alternative energy; non-governmental organizations; and international aid.

2

The president possesses tools to redirect or transfer funds that have been appropriated and allocated by Congress, but rescission or redirection of obligated funds is legally uncharted territory.

3

Organizations should continue to manage and apply for grants as usual, to the extent that funding remains undisrupted. If an organization feels particularly at-risk for future funding freezes, they should consider communication with their grants officer or manager to request assistance or possibly early dispersal of funds.

4

Advocate for your organization, which may include representing your grant work in a light favorable to the administration. If you have ties to policy-makers, consider reaching out to advocate for your federal funding to be continued. But be careful to not use federal funds for lobbying purposes.

5

Organizations should also proactively plan in case funding is frozen again. This includes finding alternative funding and creating a contingency plan for restructuring.

6

If funding is frozen, document all expenses. Some expenses may be reimbursable if funding becomes available again at some point in the future.

7

Certain avenues of legal challenge may be available to organizations in certain circumstances. These include administrative appeals, actions under the Tucker Act, and Administrative Procedure Act (APA) claims.