



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

THE DIRECTOR

January 20, 2018

OMB BULLETIN No. 18-01

TO THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ESTABLISHMENTS

SUBJECT: Apportionment of Obligational Authority for Necessary Agency Operations in the Absence of Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations

1. Purpose and Background. The Continuing Appropriations Act, 2018, Division D of Public Law 115-56, as amended (the “CR”), provides funding and authority for agencies to operate through the end of January 19, 2018. Because a bill providing appropriations beyond January 19 has not been enacted, there will be a lapse in appropriations beginning on January 20, 2018, in those appropriation accounts subject to the termination date in the CR. Any balances that were appropriated by the CR and apportioned by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) are not available for obligation during the lapse in appropriations.

During a lapse in appropriations, each agency must operate in accordance with the contingency plan that the agency has prepared under OMB Circular A-11, section 124 and the applicable guidance that has been issued by the Department of Justice and OMB.

In order for agencies to implement their contingency plans, and as specified in section 2 below, I am automatically apportioning the obligational authority as provided by the Antideficiency Act that is necessary for agencies to incur obligations in accordance with their contingency plans during the duration of the lapse in appropriations.

2. Automatic Apportionment. I automatically apportion amounts necessary for obligations required in order to carry out your agency’s contingency plan required by OMB Circular A-11, section 124. As a reminder, this automatic apportionment provides authority to incur obligations, but does not provide any authority to liquidate such obligations. This automatic apportionment does not affect previously approved FY 2018 apportionments for non-CR related funds (e.g., carryover amounts from multi-year funding). Therefore, agencies should continue to operate under such previously approved apportionments for those other funding sources.

3. Reporting. Following enactment of a subsequent continuing resolution or full-year appropriation, you may be required to provide your RMO an accounting of amounts obligated during this lapse in appropriations.

Mick Mulvaney
Director