



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

March 24, 2021

M-21-22

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FROM: Robert Fairweather  
Acting Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Fairweather".

SUBJECT: Update to Implementation of Performance Management Statutes

This Memorandum provides agencies with guidance on developing performance goals consistent with the Administration's priorities.

Effective immediately, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has reestablished in its entirety Part 6 of Circular No. A-11, "*Federal Performance Framework for Improving Program and Service Delivery*," and its associated organizational performance and management guidance including sections on evaluation and evidence-building, customer experience, program management, and enterprise risk management. Part 6 of OMB Circular A-11 is available at [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/a11\\_web\\_toc.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/a11_web_toc.pdf).

This Memorandum also rescinds the third through eighth paragraphs of OMB Memorandum M-21-13, Implementation of Performance Management Statutes (January 15, 2021). OMB remains committed to making meaningful progress towards creating a Federal Program Inventory, and as such the section of M-21-13 regarding the Federal Program Inventory pilot remains in effect.

The removal of Part 6 from Circular No. A-11 in December 2020 threatened to disrupt strategic and performance planning across Federal departments and agencies. These activities are critical to clearly defining the outcomes the Federal Government aims to achieve, using feedback from our customers to improve service delivery, and being transparent about agency results.

Agency heads and Chief Operating Officers (COOs), supported by Performance Improvement Officers, are instructed to align their strategic goals and objectives, including Agency Priority Goals, with the Administration's policy priorities, in particular continuing to meet the health, welfare, and economic challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, advance equity, and address climate change. Agencies are encouraged to form partnerships proactively in areas where programs from multiple agencies must work together to achieve a common outcome and to submit proposals for joint Agency Priority Goals to OMB where appropriate. Agency Chiefs

of Staff and Deputy Secretaries should ensure coordination with partner agencies, OMB, and the appropriate White House policy councils prior to drafting strategic plan objectives and priority goals. As specified in Part 6 of Circular A-11, agency draft strategic plan objectives and priority goals should be submitted to OMB by June 4, 2021. Finally, as Priority Goals are established throughout 2021, Agency Deputy Secretaries or COOs, as applicable, are responsible for conducting, at least quarterly, data-driven reviews of progress.

Following OMB's receipt of agency draft submissions, OMB will work with White House policy councils and other EOP policy offices to ensure alignment with the Administration's highest priorities for policy implementation and will promote collaboration across multiple agencies as needed. OMB will also ensure a coordinated approach to achieve these priorities as part of formulating the fiscal year 2023 President's Budget and developing the forthcoming President's Management Agenda.

While Part 6 of OMB Circular No. A-11 has been reestablished in its previous form to ensure there is no delay in these critical activities, OMB will work in partnership with agencies and seek input from key stakeholders inside and outside Government as OMB undertakes a review over the course of this year to identify improvements that can be made to the effectiveness of the performance framework.