

## CRS Reports & Analysis

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.<sup>1</sup> 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 James V. Saturno.

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

Table 1. Funding Gaps and Government Shutdowns: CRS Experts

Legislative Issues	Name/Title	Phone	Email
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**Agencies and programs funded by regular appropriations bills<sup>a</sup>**

Coordinator for Agriculture and related agencies appropriations	<b>Jim Monke</b> Specialist in Agricultural Policy	7-9664	<a href="mailto:jmonke@crs.loc.gov">jmonke@crs.loc.gov</a>
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	<b>Jennifer D. Williams (Commerce)</b> Specialist in American National Government	7-8640	<a href="mailto:jwilliams@crs.loc.gov">jwilliams@crs.loc.gov</a>
	<b>John F. Sargent Jr.</b>	7-9147	<a href="mailto:jsargent@crs.loc.gov">jsargent@crs.loc.gov</a>

**(science agencies)**  
Specialist in Science and  
Technology Policy

Coordinator for Defense appropriations	<b>Pat Towell</b> Specialist in U.S. Defense Policy and Budget	7-2122	<a href="mailto:ptowell@crs.loc.gov">ptowell@crs.loc.gov</a>
Coordinator for Energy and water development appropriations	<b>Mark Holt</b> Specialist in Energy Policy	7-1704	<a href="mailto:mholt@crs.loc.gov">mholt@crs.loc.gov</a>
Coordinator for financial services and general government appropriations	<b>Baird Webel</b> Specialist in Financial Economics	7-0652	<a href="mailto:bwebel@crs.loc.gov">bwebel@crs.loc.gov</a>
Coordinator for Homeland Security Department appropriations	<b>William L. Painter</b> Specialist in Homeland Security and Appropriations	7-3335	<a href="mailto:wpainter@crs.loc.gov">wpainter@crs.loc.gov</a>
Coordinators for Interior, environment, and related agencies appropriations	<b>Carol Hardy Vincent</b> Specialist in Natural Resources Policy	7-8651	<a href="mailto:chvincent@crs.loc.gov">chvincent@crs.loc.gov</a>
	<b>Robert Esworthy</b> <b>(Environmental Protection Agency)</b> Specialist in Environmental Policy	7-7236	<a href="mailto:resworthy@crs.loc.gov">resworthy@crs.loc.gov</a>
Coordinators for Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations	<b>Karen E. Lynch</b> <b>(overall/HHS)</b> Specialist in Social Policy	7-6899	<a href="mailto:klynch@crs.loc.gov">klynch@crs.loc.gov</a>

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	<b>Agata Dabrowska (public health)</b> Analyst in Health Policy	7-9455	<a href="mailto:adabrowska@crs.loc.gov">adabrowska@crs.loc.gov</a>
	<b>Cassandra Dortch (Education)</b> Specialist in Education Policy	7-0376	<a href="mailto:cdortch@crs.loc.gov">cdortch@crs.loc.gov</a>
	<b>William R. Morton (Social Security)</b> Analyst in Income Security	7-9453	<a href="mailto:wmorton@crs.loc.gov">wmorton@crs.loc.gov</a>
Coordinator for legislative branch appropriations	<b>Ida A. Brudnick</b> Specialist on the Congress	7-6460	<a href="mailto:ibrudnick@crs.loc.gov">ibrudnick@crs.loc.gov</a>
Coordinators for military construction, Veterans Affairs, and related agencies appropriations	<b>Lynn M. Williams</b> Specialist in U.S. Defense Budget	7-0569	<a href="mailto:lmwilliams@crs.loc.gov">lmwilliams@crs.loc.gov</a>
	<b>Sidath Viranga Panangala</b> Specialist in Veterans Policy	7-0623	<a href="mailto:spanangala@crs.loc.gov">spanangala@crs.loc.gov</a>
Coordinators for State, foreign operations, and	<b>Susan B. Epstein</b> Specialist in Foreign Policy	7-6678	<a href="mailto:sepstein@crs.loc.gov">sepstein@crs.loc.gov</a>

related programs  
appropriations

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Specialist in Foreign  
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**Cory R. Gill** 7-0093 [cgill@crs.loc.gov](mailto:cgill@crs.loc.gov)  
Analyst in Foreign Affairs

Coordinators for  
Transportation,  
Housing and Urban  
Development, and  
related agencies  
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**David Randall Peterman** 7-3267 [dpeterman@crs.loc.gov](mailto:dpeterman@crs.loc.gov)  
Analyst in Transportation  
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### Cross-cutting shutdown issues

Congressional  
operations and  
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procedure

**Ida A. Brudnick  
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Section Research Manager

Executive branch  
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**Clinton T. Brass** 7-4536 [cbrass@crs.loc.gov](mailto:cbrass@crs.loc.gov)  
Specialist in Government  
Organization and

## Management

Judiciary operations and budget	<b>Barry J. McMillion</b> Analyst in American National Government	7-6025	<a href="mailto:bmcillion@crs.loc.gov">bmcillion@crs.loc.gov</a>
Legal issues (appropriations law)	<b>Edward C. Liu</b> Legislative Attorney	7-9166	<a href="mailto:eliu@crs.loc.gov">eliu@crs.loc.gov</a>
Legal issues (government contracts law)	<b>Erika K. Lunder</b> Legislative Attorney	7-4538	<a href="mailto:elunder@crs.loc.gov">elunder@crs.loc.gov</a>
Federal grants-in-aid	<b>Natalie Keegan</b> Acting Section Research Manager	7-9569	<a href="mailto:nkeegan@crs.loc.gov">nkeegan@crs.loc.gov</a>
Funding gaps, continuing resolutions (CRs), and congressional budget process	<b>James V. Saturno</b> Specialist on Congress and the Legislative Process	7-2381	<a href="mailto:jsaturno@crs.loc.gov">jsaturno@crs.loc.gov</a>
Economic and financial market issues	<b>D. Andrew Austin</b> Analyst in Economic Policy	7-6552	<a href="mailto:aaustin@crs.loc.gov">aaustin@crs.loc.gov</a>
	<b>Marc Labonte</b> Specialist in Macroeconomic Policy	7-0640	<a href="mailto:mlabonte@crs.loc.gov">mlabonte@crs.loc.gov</a>
National security concerns during shutdown period	<b>John Rollins</b> Specialist in Terrorism and National Security	7-5529	<a href="mailto:jrollins@crs.loc.gov">jrollins@crs.loc.gov</a>

## Domestic social policy-related programs and agencies

Coordinators (will help identify)	<b>Kristin M. Finklea</b> Specialist in Domestic	7-6259	<a href="mailto:kfinklea@crs.loc.gov">kfinklea@crs.loc.gov</a>
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subject matter experts for unlisted areas)	Security and Division Research Coordinator		
Affordable Care Act (ACA) insurance exchanges	<b>Annie L. Mach</b> Specialist in Health Care Financing	7-7825	<a href="mailto:amach@crs.loc.gov">amach@crs.loc.gov</a>
Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHB)	<b>Namrata Uberoi</b> Analyst in Health Care Financing	7-0688	<a href="mailto:nuberoi@crs.loc.gov">nuberoi@crs.loc.gov</a>
Federal employee retirement benefits (CSRS/FERS)	<b>Katelin P. Isaacs</b> Specialist in Income Security	7-7355	<a href="mailto:kisaacs@crs.loc.gov">kisaacs@crs.loc.gov</a>
Medicaid	<b>Alison Mitchell</b> Specialist in Health Care Financing	7-0152	<a href="mailto:amitchell@crs.loc.gov">amitchell@crs.loc.gov</a>
Medicare	<b>Patricia A. Davis</b> Specialist in Health Care Financing	7-7362	<a href="mailto:pdavis@crs.loc.gov">pdavis@crs.loc.gov</a>
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	<b>William R. Morton</b> Analyst in Income Security	7-9453	<a href="mailto:wmorton@crs.loc.gov">wmorton@crs.loc.gov</a>
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	<b>Randy Alison Aussenberg</b> Specialist in Nutrition Assistance Policy	7-8641	<a href="mailto:raussenberg@crs.loc.gov">raussenberg@crs.loc.gov</a>
Unemployment insurance	<b>Julie M. Whittaker</b> Specialist in Income Security	7-2587	<a href="mailto:jwhittaker@crs.loc.gov">jwhittaker@crs.loc.gov</a>

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Veterans health care and medical research	<b>Sidath Viranga Panangala</b> Specialist in Veterans Policy	7-0623	<a href="mailto:spanangala@crs.loc.gov">spanangala@crs.loc.gov</a>

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Department of Defense (DOD) operations	<b>Michael J. Vassalotti</b> Section Research Manager	7-1750	<a href="mailto:mvassalotti@crs.loc.gov">mvassalotti@crs.loc.gov</a>

### General government-related programs and agencies

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Executive Office of the President (EOP)	<b>Barbara L. Schwemle</b> Analyst in American National Government	7-8655	<a href="mailto:bschwemle@crs.loc.gov">bschwemle@crs.loc.gov</a>
Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and tax-related operations	<b>Gary Guenther</b> Analyst in Public Finance	7-7742	<a href="mailto:gguenther@crs.loc.gov">gguenther@crs.loc.gov</a>
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Office of Management and Budget (OMB)	<b>Clinton T. Brass</b> Specialist in Government Organization and Management	7-4536	<a href="mailto:cbrass@crs.loc.gov">cbrass@crs.loc.gov</a>
Office of Personnel Management (OPM)	<b>Barbara L. Schwemle</b> Analyst in American National Government	7-8655	<a href="mailto:bschwemle@crs.loc.gov">bschwemle@crs.loc.gov</a>

### Resources, science, and technology-related programs and agencies

Coordinator (will help identify subject matter experts for unlisted areas)	<b>Kelsi Bracmort</b> Acting Deputy Assistant Director/Resources, Science, and Industry	7-7283	<a href="mailto:kbracmort@crs.loc.gov">kbracmort@crs.loc.gov</a>
Air safety, air traffic control, aviation/airport security, and screening issues	<b>Bart Elias</b> Specialist in Aviation Policy	7-7771	<a href="mailto:belias@crs.loc.gov">belias@crs.loc.gov</a>
Highway spending issues	<b>Robert S. Kirk</b> Specialist in Transportation Policy	7-7769	<a href="mailto:rkirk@crs.loc.gov">rkirk@crs.loc.gov</a>
Food safety issues	<b>Renée Johnson</b> Specialist in Agricultural Policy	7-9588	<a href="mailto:rjohnson@crs.loc.gov">rjohnson@crs.loc.gov</a>
Nuclear safety issues	<b>Mark Holt</b> Specialist in Energy Policy	7-1704	<a href="mailto:mholt@crs.loc.gov">mholt@crs.loc.gov</a>

#### Note:

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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## Footnotes

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.