
Performance of NPS Financial Assistance Agreements During a Lapse in Appropriations

From: 'Bureau Financial Assistance Chief, NPS'

Date: Wed, Oct 1, 2025 at 6:12 AM

Subject: Performance of NPS Financial Assistance Agreements During a Lapse in Appropriations

To:

Dear National Park Service Financial Assistance Recipient:

Please note: This message is being sent from an unmonitored inbox. During the lapse in appropriations, NPS staff will not be available to respond to questions. Please review the information below carefully.

As of October 1, 2025, there are no annual appropriations for some Federal Agencies, including the National Park Service (NPS).

NPS financial assistance agreements include grants, cooperative agreements, and task agreements. Regardless of the additional information and criteria provided below, existing financial assistance agreements that prevent imminent harm to life or property — including the care of captive animals — will continue during the lapse in appropriations.

Access to NPS sites and employees will be very limited beginning October 1, 2025, until further notice. Therefore:

- No work is to be performed under financial assistance agreements that require access to NPS sites, NPS personnel, or that are dependent on additional appropriations.
- Recipients must refrain from providing services under such agreements, ensure that any subrecipients comply with this notice, and otherwise minimize costs.

Some financial assistance agreements are not dependent on additional appropriations, access to NPS sites, or substantial involvement of NPS personnel. Performance of grants in this category may continue during the lapse in appropriations.

While cooperative agreements and task agreements typically require substantial involvement for at least a portion of their period of performance, they may also continue if during the lapse they do not depend on additional appropriations, access to NPS sites or personnel, or substantial involvement.

If you are uncertain whether performance should continue for your financial assistance agreement(s), performance should cease until you can obtain clarification from your point of contact, or until further written communication is issued.

This notification remains in effect until you receive further written communication from NPS. That is not expected to occur until appropriations are again available.

Access to Funds (ASAP): Recipients will continue to have access to funds through the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system. You may draw down funds as needed to cover allowable costs, consistent with the terms of your award.

Please note that any accounts currently suspended will remain suspended until addressed by your Awarding Officer after appropriations are restored. During the lapse in appropriations, ASAP Help Desk support may be limited. For reference, the U.S. Treasury/Fiscal Service ASAP Help Desk contact information is 1-855-868-0151 (option 2, then option 3), and asaphelpdesk@fiscal.treasury.gov.

Reminder: This message was sent from an unmonitored email inbox. During the lapse in appropriations, no NPS staff will be available to respond to questions. Once appropriations are restored, further guidance will be provided by NPS Financial Assistance Awarding Officers.

Thank you,

Bureau Financial Assistance Chief

National Park Service

(Distributed on behalf of NPS Financial Assistance Awarding Officers)

CC:

NPS Financial Assistance Awarding Officers

NPS Agreement Technical Representatives