



homeforward

Frequently Asked Questions

Federal Funding Freeze

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What was the federal funding freeze?

On Monday, January 27, 2025, the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) published a memo at the direction of the White House ordering all federal agencies to freeze all federal loan and grant funding to conduct a review of federal financial assistance.

The day after, on January 28, 2025, a federal judge temporarily halted the freeze until February 3, 2025. Under the court's emergency order, the Trump administration could not suspend disbursement of any congressionally appropriated funds until February 3, 2024.

On January 29, 2025, the White House rescinded the OMB memo that would have frozen federal grants and loans.

A second lawsuit regarding the freeze was filed on January 31, 2025, and the federal judge in that case issued an additional order to temporarily halt the freeze. Then on February 3, 2025, the federal judge in the first case continued their order that temporarily halted the freeze.

How does this impact Home Forward residents and program participants?

Home Forward is not a federal agency but does receive the majority of its funding from the federal government. As a result of two federal court orders halted the federal funding freeze and the White House rescission of the memo resulting in the freeze, it is our understanding that residents and program participants will continue to receive their housing assistance. Home Forward currently has sufficient funds to keep residents and participants housed. We will continue to monitor and provide updates as more information becomes available.

Could I lose my housing/rent assistance?

As a result of two federal court orders halted the federal funding freeze order and the White House rescission of the memo resulting in the freeze, it is our understanding that residents and program participants will continue to receive their housing assistance. Home Forward has sufficient reserves to keep residents and program participants housed without disruption for the time being. We are keeping in close contact with our Congressional delegation, state, county, municipal and city officials, and national advocacy groups to stay up to date.

What is the status of the temporary restraining order filed by the federal judge on January 28 to halt the federal funding freeze?

Following a hearing in federal court on February 3, the temporary restraining order halting the freeze was continued.

Which HUD programs may be affected by the federal funding freeze if it moves forward?

As a result of two federal court orders halted the federal funding freeze order and the White House rescission of the memo resulting in the freeze, it is our understanding that HUD programs will not be impacted for the time being.

What happens if the federal funding freeze goes through?

On January 29, the White House rescinded the memo, though the two case in federal court are still pending. We will know more as the two federal lawsuits proceed. In the meantime, rest assured that leaders across federal, state and local government are working diligently to ensure residents of Home Forward stay stably and affordably housed.

Does Home Forward have enough money to pay staff salaries and benefits?

Home Forward has sufficient reserves for the time being. If the federal funding freeze moves forward, we will reassess our financial standing and provide updates as soon as we have them.

Is there anything I should do to prepare for the potential freeze to my rent assistance, etc.?

Home Forward has sufficient reserves for the time being. We are closely monitoring the situation and will be providing regular updates on its website at HomeForward.org. You do not need to do anything at this time. If that changes, we will let you know as soon as possible.

How does this impact Home Forward staff?

Home Forward has sufficient funds to pay salaries and benefits for all staff. On January 29, the White House rescinded the OMB memo, and there are two federal court orders temporarily halting the federal freeze while the cases are pending in federal court. Home Forward will continue to monitor and provide updates as more information becomes available. Home Forward will inform staff if this changes.

What does this mean for third parties that have current contracts with Home Forward?

The contracts Home Forward holds with third parties are not subject to the OMB memo. Two federal judges have temporarily halted the federal funding freeze. Our understanding is that the memo would not impact third parties. Home Forward has sufficient funds to continue all existing contracts.