



Proposed Change From Trump Administration Threatens Federal Funding of Research and Public Health Programs

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB), which is part of the executive branch, issued a proposed rule, "[Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance](#)," that would apply to all federal departments and agencies and significantly reshape the federal grant-making process. The proposed policy is a sweeping departure from decades of best practices in federal merit-based grantmaking. ASH and others in the medical and scientific community are **extremely** concerned about the negative impact this proposal will have on the research enterprise, the advancement of science, public health programs, and access to care for vulnerable populations.

Many of the proposed changes in this 400+ page rule implement various executive orders issued over the past year and codify problematic existing practices. Among other things, the proposed rule:

- Calls for review of all federal grant applications by political appointees
- Prohibits the use of grant funding for conferences, unless approved and included in the conditions of the award
- Prohibits the use of grant funding for publications/subscriptions
- Prohibits the use of grant funding for article publication charges or similar fees such as open-access fees, unless required by statute or — if approved in advance — meeting defined requirements
- Prohibits the use of grant funding for membership dues, unless necessary to fulfill grant requirements, and must be preapproved
- Allows for grant cancellations for any reason, at any time, and without cause
- Prioritizes alignment with Administration policies over scientific merit, public health needs, and evidence-based clinical standards and guidelines
- Bans funding for research into topics such as diversity, equity, and inclusion and "gender ideology"
- Limits federal research and development funding to U.S.-organized entities, increasing justification requirements for foreign partners, sites, and subawards in multinational clinical trials

For more detailed information on the proposed OMB rule: ASH's policy consultants have prepared an extensive summary of the proposal [here](#). This analysis includes overviews of the subparts and their implications for research, public health, and health care. Additionally, there is a detailed section-by-section explanation of each proposed change and links to OMB's proposed language.

In July, ASH published a [statement](#) on the rule and submitted [comments](#) to OMB urging immediate withdrawal of the rule. We also need ASH members to contact lawmakers so Congress can understand the potentially devastating impact of this rule. Use these [talking points](#) to reach out to your [Representative](#) and [Senators](#) to protect the advancement of science and access to care.

For questions or comments please email advocacynetwork@hematology.org.