

What is a **GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN**





What is a Government Shutdown?

The government shuts down when Congress doesn't agree on how to pay for federal agencies and programs. The government's budget year ends on September 30th each year, which is why a government shutdown can start on October 1st if no new budget is passed. During a shutdown, many government offices close, and some federal workers are sent home without pay. Services that are very important, like the Military, Air Traffic Control, Postal Service, and Social Security, will keep running, though some may experience delays. Other services that are not seen as essential to public safety, national security, or legal requirements will stop or slow down. A shutdown ends when Congress passes a new budget and the President signs it into law.

What Can You Do During a Shutdown

During a government shutdown, people can reach out to state or local agencies for help if federal programs are temporarily unavailable. Elected officials can also be contacted with questions or concerns about the shutdown.

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