

Federal Shutdown Resources

How the Shutdown affects Services for Older Adults

While the federal government's partial shutdown does not affect Social Security or Medicare, it may impact some services used by older adults.

- Learn why Social Security is not affected by the shutdown via Kiplinger's Magazine (<https://www.kiplinger.com/article/retirement/T051-C000-S003-government-shutdown-delay-social-security-benefits.html>).
- Learn why Medicare is not affected by the shutdown via Kiplinger's Magazine (<https://www.kiplinger.com/article/retirement/T039-C001-S003-how-does-the-government-shutdown-affect-medicare.html>).
- Learn about services for older adults, which may be affected by the shutdown via the Medicare Rights Center (<https://tinyurl.com/yamq9b4f>).
- Learn about the USDA's decision to send out February SNAP benefits early as a work-around to the shutdown (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/pressrelease/2019/000319>).

Shutdown and Older Federal Workers

Older adults, who work for affected federal agencies, also are affected.

- Almost 10% of federal employees are age 60-64; another 4% are age 65+, according to the US Office of Personnel Management (<https://tinyurl.com/hdbc83r>).

Find Help for Older Adults

Local Area Agencies on Aging coordinate many of the services available to older adults. Some also contract with nonprofits to offer services.

- Find Local Area Agencies on Aging
 - (DC) – DC Office on Aging (202-724-5622) provides many services themselves, and also contract with local nonprofit “Lead Agencies” to offer others. Learn about DC Office on Aging’s Lead Agencies via Iona’s free fact sheet (https://www.iona.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Iona-Resource-Guide_Lead-Agencies.pdf).
 - (MD) – Montgomery County Aging & Disability Services (240-777-3000)
 - (MD) – Prince George’s County Aging Services Division (301-265-8450)
 - (VA) – City of Alexandria’s Aging & Adult Services (703-746-5999)
 - (VA) – Arlington County’s Aging & Disability (703-228-1700)
 - (VA) – Fairfax County’s Aging, Disability, and Caregiver Resources (703-324-7948)
- (DC, MD, VA) – Iona’s Information & Referral Helpline (<https://www.iona.org/services/helpline/>) also helps identify services and benefits for older adults around the DC metro area.

Find Help for Federal Workers from Local Governments

Metro DC’s local governments have set up special shutdown webpages with links to both government and non-government assistance

- (DC) – DC’s “Federal Government Shutdown Assistance” webpage (<https://dc.gov/shutdown>).
- (MD) – Montgomery County’s “Federal Shutdown Assistance” webpage (https://montgomerycountymd.gov/mcg/fed_employee-furlough.html).

- (MD) – Prince George’s County “Federal Government Shutdown Assistance” webpage (<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3053/Federal-Government-Shutdown-Assistance>).
- (VA) – The City of Alexandria’s “Resources for Federal Workers” webpage (<https://www.alexandriava.gov/dchs/economicssupport/default.aspx?id=107606>).
- (VA) – Arlington County’s “Federal Government Shutdown Resources” webpage (<https://www.arlingtonva.us/shutdown/>).
- (VA) – Fairfax County’s “Resources for County Residents Impacted by Federal Shutdown” webpage (<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/resources-for-county-residents-impacted-by-federal-shutdown/>).

Find Other Help for Federal Workers

- (DC, MD, VA) – Resource links from NBC News (<https://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/How-to-Get-Help-During-the-Shutdown-504121501.html>).
- (DC, MD, VA) – Resource links from Washington City Paper (<https://www.washingtoncitypaper.com/news/city-desk/article/21039955/the-dc-guide-to-the-201819-government-shutdown>).