

From: [A Message from the Commissioner](#)
To: [FDA Wide](#)
Subject: Potential Lapse in Funding
Date: Thursday, December 20, 2018 7:12:58 PM



From the Desk of the Commissioner



Dear Colleagues:

You have likely already seen the Secretary's email this afternoon about the potential lapse in funding for certain federal agencies, including the FDA. Unless Congress acts to enact a funding bill for the FDA before 11:59 p.m. on Friday, December 21st, we will find ourselves in a partial government shutdown.

Employees will soon be receiving, via email, an informal notice of their employment status in the event of a lapse in appropriations. I know that many of you will have questions, and we are committed to keeping the lines of communication open during this time.

I want to take a moment to reinforce how grateful I am for your dedication to FDA's mission, and to your pursuit of our shared efforts to advance and protect the public health. The work we do is critical. Together we are able to make a difference in the lives of millions of people, by supporting the health and wellness of Americans, enabling consumers to make safe and informed choices about the products they use and the foods they feed to their families and animals, and much more.

I recognize that a shutdown will impose challenges for you and your families, and for the public that we are committed to serve. I deeply regret that we face these challenges at any time – and especially at this time of the year. I remain optimistic that Congress will work quickly to maintain the government's funding so we may continue to carry out all of the activities that support our important mission. I know that through our collective work and dedication to our mission, we'll continue to maintain our critical consumer protections, to the extent permitted by law, through these times. We will be in touch with more information as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

Dr. Scott Gottlieb
Commissioner of Food and Drugs

