

Acting Director Matthew J. Vaeth
Office of Management and Budget
1650 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20006

Subject: Request For Clarity and Timeline of Federal Agency Review of Grants

Dear Acting Director Vaeth,

On behalf of the [Technology Councils of North America \(TECNA\)](#), I am writing to express our appreciation for the Administration's decision to rescind the recent OMB memo and reopen funding streams that are vital to the U.S. economy. However, many questions remain regarding the implementation of executive orders on funding reviews, the status of pending applications, and the long-term stability of these funding programs.

TECNA represents 45 technology trade organizations across the United States, collectively representing over 22,000 small and medium-sized innovation-driven companies. Our members play a critical role in fostering regional innovation, supporting workforce development, and strengthening America's technology ecosystem. They serve as essential connectors, helping startups and growing tech businesses access federal funding, talent pipelines, and commercialization opportunities to drive economic growth and job creation nationwide.

While the decision to lift the funding freeze is a step in the right direction, there remains significant uncertainty and anxiety among our members—particularly those who depend on federal grants to sustain innovation, workforce programs, and economic development initiatives. Whether it is a USDA Rural Development grant in Maryland, a DOL Pathways to Infrastructure grant in Milwaukee, an EDA Tech Hub grant in Philadelphia, a DOL workforce grant in Colorado, and EDA Build Back Better grant in Pittsburgh, or a Build to Scale Grant in Washington State, the delay in disbursing these critical funds continues to disrupt technology councils' ability to support startups, scale workforce programs, and drive regional economic growth.

Federal grant programs are intended to catalyze innovation, strengthen regional economies, and help early-stage companies scale. However, the recent uncertainty surrounding funding availability has had the opposite effect, creating instability for businesses and the communities they serve. For many of our members, applying for grants requires significant financial investment, staff time, and strategic planning. If pending grants are delayed indefinitely or canceled altogether, the result is not only a substantial financial cost for the organization, but a loss of economic resilience and regional prosperity for the communities they serve. The lack of clarity surrounding these funding programs discourages businesses and organizations from

pursuing these opportunities, ultimately weakening the innovation ecosystem these grants are intended to support.

Given the far-reaching impact of these disruptions, we strongly urge the Administration to:

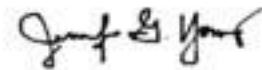
1. Clarify the status of pending grant applications to prevent unnecessary delays in critical programs.
2. Clarify the expected timeline for internal review of grants and expedite the process to prevent unnecessary delays in critical programs.
3. Ensure continued support for regional innovation initiatives that fuel economic growth and job creation across the U.S.

TECNA and its members remain committed to fostering technological innovation, growing the tech workforce, and ensuring that the United States remains a global leader in technology and economic development. We recognize the complexities involved in policy implementation and are eager to assist in communicating any key updates to our members and partners.

To support effective communication between the Administration and the innovation community, we are happy to coordinate remote briefings or discussions to clarify policy changes and ensure that technology councils and their member businesses receive timely and accurate information. We respect the objective to ensure that federal funding is used responsibly and are happy to work with you to demonstrate the value of how these programs directly support the innovation sector and contribute to economic growth.

We appreciate your attention to this urgent matter and welcome the opportunity to collaborate with the Administration in fostering a robust and thriving innovation economy. If you have any questions or would like to discuss these concerns further, please feel free to contact me at 412-545-3493 or jyoung@tecna.org.

Sincerely,



Jennifer G. Young
CEO
Technology Councils of North America (TECNA)