

## **Selected Trump Administration Executive Orders**

### **Introduction**

Since his inauguration on January 20, 2025, President Donald Trump (R) signed Executive Orders concerning many policy priorities, including diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA), immigration and border security, trade and economic policy, the federal workforce, energy and environmental policy, and law and order.

An Executive Order is a declaration by the president which has the force of law, usually based on existing statutory powers, and requiring no action by the Congress. They are numbered consecutively, so Executive Orders may be referenced by their assigned number, or their topic<sup>1</sup>.

**GSA seeks to highlight the President's Executive Orders that are relevant to our members and partners that impact policies regarding aging, healthcare, climate change, diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility initiatives, our partners in the federal workforce, and support for research and research infrastructure.**

### **New Orders:**

#### **Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency" Cost Efficiency Initiative – February 26, 2025**

This order seeks a transformation in federal spending on contracts, grants, and loans "to ensure government spending is transparent and government employees are accountable to the American public." According to the order, federal agency heads, working with team leads with the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), are to "build a centralized technological system within the agency to seamlessly record every payment issued by the agency pursuant to each of the agency's covered contracts and grants, along with a brief, written justification for each payment submitted by the agency employee who approved the payment." The order further calls for the immediate "review [of] all existing covered contracts and grants and, where appropriate and consistent with applicable law, terminate or modify (including through renegotiation) such covered contracts and grants to reduce overall Federal spending or reallocate spending to promote efficiency and advance the policies of my administration." The order also calls for reviews of contract and grant processes, justification of non-essential travel, and a freeze on "all credit cards held by agency employees ... for 30 days from the date of this order." The order also addresses government property leases and dispositions, calling for a plan "for the disposition of Government-owned real property which has been deemed by the agency as no longer needed."

#### **Commencing the Reduction of the Federal Bureaucracy – February 19, 2025**

This order seeks to "dramatically reduce the size of the Federal Government, while increasing its accountability to the American people." The order calls for the elimination of numerous positions and groups, including the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Long COVID at the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Health Equity Advisory Committee at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. The order also directs the United States Institute of Peace, United States African Development Foundation, the Presidio Trust, and the Inter-American Foundation to be "eliminated to the maximum extent consistent with applicable law."

#### **Ensuring Accountability for All Agencies – February 18, 2025**

This order seeks to bring independent federal regulatory agencies under the supervision of the President. The EO says that independent agencies working on regulations would also be required to submit any new regulations to an office of the White House, the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, for review before publication in the *Federal Register*. The order further directs the Director of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to establish performance standards and management objectives for independent agency heads, as appropriate and consistent

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cio.gov/handbook/other-it-authorities/executive-orders/>

with applicable law, and report periodically to the President on their performance and efficiency in attaining such standards and objectives. Examples of independent agencies include the National Science Foundation, the Social Security Administration, and the National Council on Disabilities.

### **Establishing the President's Make America Healthy Again Commission – February 13, 2025**

This order seeks to “aggressively combat the critical health challenges facing our citizens, including the rising rates of mental health disorders, obesity, diabetes, and other chronic diseases. To do so, executive departments and agencies (agencies) that address health or healthcare must focus on reversing chronic disease.” The order states that NIH “and other health-related research funded by the Federal Government should prioritize gold-standard research on the root causes of why Americans are getting sick.” The commission will be chaired by the Secretary of Health and Human Services with the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy serving as Executive Director. The order further notes that “we must re-direct our national focus, in the public and private sectors, toward understanding and drastically lowering chronic disease rates and ending childhood chronic disease. This includes fresh thinking on nutrition, physical activity, healthy lifestyles, over-reliance on medication and treatments.”

### **Implementing The President's “Department of Government Efficiency” Workforce Optimization Initiative – February 11, 2025**

This order seeks to downsize the federal government workforce, commencing “a critical transformation of the Federal bureaucracy” through a new hiring ratio and reductions in force (RIF). “By eliminating waste, bloat, and insularity, my Administration will empower American families, workers, taxpayers, and our system of Government itself,” the order reads. “Pursuant to the Presidential Memorandum of January 20, 2025 (Hiring Freeze), the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit a plan to reduce the size of the Federal Government’s workforce through efficiency improvements and attrition (Plan). The Plan shall require that each agency hire no more than one employee for every four employees that depart, consistent with the plan and any applicable exemptions and details provided for in the Plan.” This order exempts functions related to public safety, immigration enforcement, or law enforcement. Further, the order directs agency head to prepare “initiate large-scale reductions in force.”

### **Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government – January 20, 2025**

This order defines gendered terms (woman, man, boy, girl) by their biologic sex (male, female), and rescinds all agency documents regarding transgender, LGBTQI+, and intersex individuals. The order defines “women” as biologically different from men. The executive order notes that the “administration will defend women’s rights and protect freedom of conscience by using clear and accurate language and policies that recognize women are biologically female, and men are biologically male.” The order further states that gender ideology is “internally inconsistent, in that it diminishes sex as an identifiable or useful category but nevertheless maintains that it is possible for a person to be born in the wrong sexed body.” The order also bans federal funding to promote gender ideology, mandating that all federal agencies “assess grant conditions and grantee preferences and ensure grant funds do not promote gender ideology.”

### **Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing – January 20, 2025**

This order, very similar to the January 21 order, directs OMB to “coordinate the termination of all discriminatory programs, including illegal DEI and ‘diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility’ (DEIA) mandates, policies, programs, preferences, and activities in the Federal Government, under whatever name they appear.” The order further calls to eliminate DEIA and environmental justice offices and positions, and all equity action plans, equity actions, initiatives, or programs, equity-related grants or contracts, and all DEIA performance requirements for employees, contractors, or grantees.

### **Regulatory Freeze - January 20, 2025**

This order prohibits federal agencies from proposing or issuing any rules without first being reviewed and approved by a department or agency head appointed or designated by President Trump. Agencies must withdraw any rules that have been sent to the Federal Register but have not yet been published, for review and approval by the new agency head. The order mandates agencies to consider postponing for 60 days any rules that have been published or otherwise issued but have not yet taken effect, to be reviewed for questions of fact, law, and policy.

### **Restoring Accountability to Policy-Influencing Positions Within the Federal Workforce – January 20, 2025**

This order reissues the reclassification of thousands of federal employees into Schedule F for federal for those who work in policy-influencing roles. This change makes it much easier to terminate employees in this classification. According to the order, “employees in or applicants for Schedule Policy/Career positions are not required to personally or politically support the current President or the policies of the current administration. They are required to faithfully implement administration policies to the best of their ability, consistent with their constitutional oath and the vesting of executive authority solely in the President. Failure to do so is grounds for dismissal.” It also revokes Executive Order 14003 of January 22, 2021 (Protecting the Federal Workforce).

### **Withdrawing The United States from The World Health Organization – January 20, 2025**

This order removes the United States from the World Health Organization (WHO). The order cites “the organization’s mishandling of the COVID-19 pandemic,” its failure to adopt urgently needed reforms,” and “its inability to demonstrate independence from the inappropriate political influence of WHO member states” as primary motivators behind the withdrawal. The order also lists the U.S.’ [outsized share of assessed contributions](#) (a country’s membership dues) in relation to other WHO member-states as a reason for withdrawal. The order directs the National Security Council to establish protocols to safeguard public health and biosecurity, pauses future transfers of government funds to the WHO, recalls government personnel working with the WHO, and rescinds the 2024 U.S. Global Health Security Strategy.

Additionally, the order revokes [Executive Order 13987 \(Organizing and Mobilizing the United States Government to Provide a Unified and Effective Response to Combat COVID–19 and to Provide United States Leadership on Global Health and Security\)](#), which indicates the government’s intent to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in a coordinated manner. The order sets a 12-month withdrawal timeline and orders the Secretary of State to cease negotiations on the [WHO Pandemic Agreement](#) and amendments to the [International Health Regulations](#) while withdrawal is in progress.

### **Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity – January 21, 2025**

This order directs agencies of the federal government to terminate all activity relating to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA). The order notes “Illegal DEI and DEIA policies not only violate the text and spirit of our longstanding Federal civil-rights laws, they also undermine our national unity, as they deny, discredit, and undermine the traditional American values of hard work, excellence, and individual achievement in favor of an unlawful, corrosive, and pernicious identity-based spoils system.” The order revokes previous orders, dating far back as 1965, regarding equal opportunity, environmental justice in minority and low-income populations, and promotion of DEIA. The order further directs of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), with assistance from the Attorney General, to review and revise, as appropriate, all government-wide processes, directives, and guidance and remove “ references to DEI and DEIA principles, under whatever name they may appear, from Federal acquisition, contracting, grants, and financial assistance procedures to streamline those procedures, improve speed and efficiency, lower costs, and comply with civil-rights laws.” The order further encourages the private sector to “end illegal DEI discrimination and preferences.”

### **Removing Barriers to American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence – January 23, 2025**

This order revokes certain existing Biden Administration AI policies and directives that “act as barriers to American AI innovation, clearing a path for the United States to act decisively to retain global leadership in artificial intelligence.” According to the order, “It is the policy of the United States to sustain and enhance America’s global AI dominance in order to promote human flourishing, economic competitiveness, and national security.” The order states that within 180 days of this order, the Assistant to the President for Science and Technology (APST), the Special Advisor for AI and Crypto, and the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs (APNSA), in coordination with other agencies, shall develop and submit to the President an action plan to achieve this policy.

**Previous Orders Rescinded: [Initial Rescissions of Harmful Executive Orders and Actions – January 20, 2025](https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/initial-rescissions-of-harmful-executive-orders-and-actions/)**<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/initial-rescissions-of-harmful-executive-orders-and-actions/>

This order revokes dozens of executive actions from the Biden administration.

- [Executive Order 14009 of January 28, 2021 \(Strengthening Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act\)](#): The revoked order established a Special Enrollment Period for those seeking coverage within the Affordable Care Act’s (ACA) Federally Facilitated Marketplace, in response to insurance gaps facilitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. It also directed agencies with oversight of the ACA and Medicaid to review existing regulations that may present barriers to coverage for underinsured or uninsured Americans, while revoking two executive actions from the previous Trump administration geared towards ACA reform. Rescission of this order falls in line with the second Trump administration’s [stated intent to enact regulatory reform of the ACA](#).
- [Executive Order 14070 of April 5, 2022 \(Continuing To Strengthen Americans’ Access to Affordable, Quality Health Coverage\)](#). – The revoked order aimed to ensure Americans’ access to affordable, high-quality health care by restating the administration’s commitment for that goal. It specifically highlights the Biden Administration’s previous actions geared towards expanding access to health insurance coverage, such as the American Rescue Plan Act. It reiterates previous goals to maintain and enhance Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act. Additionally, the order directs agencies with health care jurisdiction to explore avenues for expanding affordable health coverage.
- [Executive Order 14087 of October 14, 2022 \(Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for Americans\)](#). – The revoked order reiterated the Biden administration’s support for lowering prescription drug costs, outlining the cost-reducing measures of the Inflation Reduction Act and other health care related executive orders. It also directed the HHS Secretary to consider new health care payment and delivery models that would lower drug costs and promote access to innovative therapies, and test selected models through the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (Innovation Center).
- [Executive Order 13986 of January 20, 2021 \(Ensuring a Lawful and Accurate Enumeration and Apportionment Pursuant to the Decennial Census\)](#): This revoked order directed the federal Census Bureau to include all people, regardless of their immigration status, in the decennial Census. The order stated that “it is the policy of the United States that reapportionment shall be based on the total number of persons residing in the several States, without regard for immigration status. It is likewise essential that the census count be accurate and based on reliable and high-quality data.”
- [Executive Order 13988 of January 20, 2021 \(Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation\)](#): This revoked order sought to prevent and combat discrimination on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation, and to fully enforce Title VII and other laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation.
- [Executive Order 13990 of January 20, 2021 \(Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science To Tackle the Climate Crisis\)](#): This revoked order directed agencies to create regulations and

programs to address climate change. The order sought to improve public health and protect the environment, to ensure access to clean air and water, to limit exposure to dangerous chemicals and pesticides, to hold polluters accountable, including those who disproportionately harm communities of color and low-income communities, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to bolster resilience to the impacts of climate change.

- [Executive Order 13995 of January 21, 2021 \(Ensuring an Equitable Pandemic Response and Recovery\)](#): This revoked order aimed to establish a fair response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic and established a COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force within HHS. It offered recommendations on reducing health inequalities faced by people of color and other underserved communities, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [Executive Order 13996 of January 21, 2021 \(Establishing the COVID-19 Pandemic Testing Board and Ensuring a Sustainable Public Health Workforce for COVID-19 and Other Biological Threats\)](#): The revoked order aimed to assemble a COVID-19 Pandemic Testing Board, while guaranteeing the development of a sustainable public health workforce to combat COVID-19 and other viral threats. The Testing Board established a unified federal testing approach, designed to expand the supply of COVID-19 tests, increasing laboratory testing capacity, and bolster the U.S. public health workforce. Rescission of the order falls in line with the Trump administration's stated intent to terminate COVID-19 pandemic-era policies from the Biden administration.
- [Executive Order 13997 of January 21, 2021 \(Improving and Expanding Access to Care and Treatments for COVID-19\)](#): The revoked order aimed to increase Americans' access to COVID-19 treatments. It specifically directed the HHS Secretary to support new studies of breakthrough COVID-19 treatments and future public health threats, expand research in rural hospitals, and study the long-term effects of proposed treatments. Additionally, it directed the Departments of Defense, Veterans Affairs, and HHS to operationalize the production, assignment, and distribution of COVID-19 treatments in critical and long-term care institutions and assessed coverage barriers for COVID-19 treatments in public and private insurance plans.
- [Executive Order 14007 of January 27, 2021 \(President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology\)](#): This revoked order established the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST). The purpose of the PCAST was to advise the President on matters involving policy affecting science, technology, and innovation, as well as on matters involving scientific and technological information that is needed to inform public policy relating to the economy, worker empowerment, education, energy, the environment, public health, national and homeland security, racial equity, and other topics.
- [Executive Order 14008 of January 27, 2021 \(Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad\)](#): The revoked executive order mandated the United States rejoin the Paris Agreement and placed the climate crisis at the forefront of this Nation's foreign policy and national security planning. The order stated that "climate considerations shall be an essential element of United States foreign policy and national security. The United States will work with other countries and partners, both bilaterally and multilaterally, to put the world on a sustainable climate pathway. The United States will also move quickly to build resilience, both at home and abroad, against the impacts of climate change that are already manifest and will continue to intensify according to current trajectories."
- [Executive Order 14013 of February 4, 2021 \(Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs To Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of Climate Change on Migration\)](#): This revoked order ordered the United States Refugee Admissions Program and other humanitarian programs to be administered in a manner consistent with our domestic law, international obligations, and the humanitarian purposes. This ordered

several federal agencies and partners, including the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, to prepare and submit to the President a report on climate change and its impact on migration, including forced migration, internal displacement, and planned relocation.

- [Executive Order 14020 of March 8, 2021 \(Establishment of the White House Gender Policy Council\)](#): This revoked executive order established a White House Gender Policy Council (Council) within the Executive Office of the President. The Council coordinated federal government efforts to advance gender equity and equality, including policies and programs to combat systemic biases and discrimination, including sexual harassment, and to support women's human rights, increase economic security and opportunity by addressing the structural barriers to women's participation in the labor force and by decreasing wage and wealth gaps, address the caregiving needs of American families and support the care-workers they depend upon; and support gender equity and combat gender stereotypes in education, including promoting participation in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields.
- [Executive Order 14021 of March 8, 2021 \(Guaranteeing an Educational Environment Free From Discrimination on the Basis of Sex, Including Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity\)](#): This revoked executive order, which applied to educational institutions that receive federal funds, sought to guarantee that all students an educational environment free from discrimination on the basis of sex, including discrimination in the form of sexual harassment, which encompasses sexual violence, and including discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.
- [Executive Order 14027 of May 7, 2021 \(Establishment of the Climate Change Support Office\)](#): This revoked order established the Climate Change Support Office, which a purpose of the specific project of supporting bilateral and multilateral engagement to advance the United States initiative to address the global climate crisis, led by the Department of State and in coordination with other executive departments and agencies, consistent with [Executive Order 14008](#).
- [Executive Order 14030 of May 20, 2021 \(Climate-Related Financial Risk\)](#): This revoked order directed the federal government to develop a comprehensive, government-wide strategy regarding the measurement, assessment, mitigation, and disclosure of climate-related financial risk to federal government programs, assets, and liabilities in order to increase the long-term stability of federal operations.
- [Executive Order 14099 of May 9, 2023 \(Moving Beyond COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements for Federal Workers\)](#): – The revoked order rescinded previous COVID-19 vaccination requirements for federal government employees and federal contractors. Although the order rescinded the vaccination mandate itself, it espoused support for vaccinations as an important tool for protecting individuals from serious illness and defended the necessity of implementing the initial federal mandate.
- [Executive Order 14110 of October 30, 2023 \(Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence \(AI\)\)](#): This revoked order sought to establish appropriate guidelines to ensure safety and security of AI. The order sought to advance and govern the development and use of AI in accordance with eight guiding principles and priorities, including promoting responsible innovation, competition, and collaboration will allow the United States to lead in AI and unlock the technology's potential to solve some of society's most difficult challenges.

The GSA Policy Team will monitor any challenges and the implementation of these Executive Orders, offering updates using GSA Connect and [Federal Policy Pulse newsletter](#).

To read all Executive Orders, click [here](#). To read the Federal Register, where government rules and regulations are housed, click [here](#). Follow GSA's advocacy activities by clicking [here](#).

If you have questions, please reach contact members of our Policy Team at [profaff@geron.org](mailto:profaff@geron.org).

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