



Executive Order #14332

Date Issued: August 7, 2025 **Topic:** DEI, LGBTQ+ Rights

WHAT DOES THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER DO?

- This executive order changes the criteria for discretionary grant funding and adds additional oversight to the grantmaking process to ensure that federal grant recipients do not "compromise public safety or promote anti-American values."
- The order prohibits discretionary grant funding for organizations that promote "racial preferences," acknowledge non-binary or transgender individuals, or support undocumented immigrants.



HOW WILL THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER BE ENFORCED?

- This executive order is primarily enforced by agency heads and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).
- The order directs each agency head to designate a senior political appointee to develop a new review process to ensure that funding opportunities and discretionary grants adhere to the new criterion outlined in the order.
- The order halts all new funding announcements until the aforementioned process is fully implemented.
- The order bestows sole responsibility for reviewing discretionary grant applications to the agency head's senior appointee and requires that appointee to grant discretionary awards to projects that would advance President Trump's policy priorities, where applicable.
- The order instructs the senior appointees to fund a broad range of organizations that produce "Gold Standard Science."
 - President Trump issued an executive order in May that established "Gold Standard Science," a new protocol for scientific experimentation at the federal level. Gold Standard Science is characterized as reproducible, transparent, communicative of error and uncertainty, collaborative and interdisciplinary, skeptical of its findings and assumptions, structured for falsifiability of hypotheses, subject to unbiased peer review, accepting of negative results as positive outcomes, and without conflicts of interest.
- The order compels the OMB Director to add a termination clause to discretionary awards for convenience, including when the award no longer advances agency priorities or the national interest.
- The order requires agency heads to send a report to the OMB Director with the number of active discretionary awards at the agency, and whether the awards have termination clauses within 30 days of the order's issuance.

HOW DOES THIS IMPACT BLACK COMMUNITIES?

- This executive order will have significant implications for Black Americans, as it will jeopardize federal funding for programs run by public housing authorities, faith-based groups, and universities that support Black communities. Discretionary grants are financial awards that fund specific projects at various amounts based on the discretion of the administering agency.
- This order will threaten funding for historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) that apply for funding to support their predominantly Black student bodies. In the wake of President Trump's <u>executive order</u> dismantling the Department of Education, and the <u>One Big Beautiful Bill</u> <u>Act</u> (OBBBA) reducing the Pell Grant allocation, Black students will face additional barriers to accessing higher education that will affect communities of color for generations.
- Over 40% of public housing residences list a Black person as the head of the household, though Black people only comprise 14.4% of the US population. This order will make it more difficult for public housing authorities to seek funding opportunities, which will disproportionately impact Black families.
- This order also gives political appointees the authority to oversee federal grants and requires them to consider the organization's alignment with President Trump's policy priorities as grantmaking criteria. President Trump won just 16% of the Black vote in 2024, and recent polling found that 83% of Black Americans disapprove of his time in office. This order will make it more difficult for organizations that support Black communities, LGBTQ+ individuals, and undocumented immigrants to receive federal funding by overriding precedent and penalizing organizations that are not politically aligned with the President.

HOW ARE CBC MEMBERS RESPONDING?

- Members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) have spoken out against the Trump Administration's efforts to eliminate DEI from the federal government.
 - o In January, the CBC issued the following statement about President Trump's executive order dismantling DEI: "Instead of working to create economic opportunities that will allow Americans to get ahead, build generational wealth, and achieve the American dream, President Trump on day one of his administration signed an executive order to systematically dismantle all diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives within the federal government. [...] This executive order is not only a broken economic promise, it stands in opposition to evidence which shows that diversity initiatives improve the government's ability to better serve our communities." Full Statement