



Update on Federal Programs

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The new Administration is making a lot of proposals about federal safety net programs, and it can be hard to keep track of what has changed, and what is just a proposal or a rumor.

This page is intended to share facts and updates about programs that affect our residents and staff.

If you have questions or concerns about changes to federal safety net programs, please consider reaching out to your representatives in Congress.

You can look them up here:

<https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-member>

HOUSING PROGRAMS

Project-Based Section 8 (PBRA)

PBRA is a HUD program that provides deeply affordable rents through a rental subsidy contract between HUD and the owner of a privately owned rental housing community. Assisted residents pay 30% of their income toward rent and utilities, no matter how low their incomes.

What has happened so far?

There have been no cuts to the PBRA program. It is fully funded for the 2025 fiscal year, which ends on 9/30/25.

What changes are proposed?

The process for deciding 2026 funding levels is just beginning. Final funding levels will probably not be determined until at least August.

Where can I get more information?

[Policy Basics: Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance](#)

HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHERS (PORTABLE SECTION 8 VOUCHERS)

Section 8 vouchers are administered by local public housing agencies. Most vouchers are provided to eligible households, and they find their own housing; some vouchers are “project-based” at specific properties. Like PBRA, voucher holders pay 30% of income for rent and utilities.

What has happened so far?

There have been no cuts to the Section 8 voucher program. It is fully funded for the 2025 fiscal year, which ends on 9/30/25.

What changes are proposed?

News sources have indicated that the Administration's budget request, expected in May, may propose to cut the Section 8 voucher program or make major changes to its structure. However, this proposal has no legal effect, and there is no indication that the Congress will adopt these proposals. 2026 funding levels for the program will be set later in 2025.

Where can I get more information?

[Trump Administration's FY26 Budget Proposal Expected to Slash Spending on HUD Programs – Take Action Now!](#)

LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDITS (LIHTC)

The LIHTC is the largest source of funding for affordable housing construction and renovation. LIHTC projects generate a 10-year stream of tax credits which are usually sold to an investor partner who contributes equity to pay for construction. LIHTC-funded units are generally targeted for households under 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI), but may range from 30-80% of AMI.

What has happened so far?

There have been no recent changes to the LIHTC program.

What changes are proposed?

A bill to expand the program, HR 2725, was introduced in the House on April 8 and has 130 cosponsors, making it the most-cosponsored tax bill in Congress.

Advocates hope this legislation can be included in broader tax legislation planned by Congressional Republicans this session.

Where can I get more information?

[New LIHTC Expansion Bill Filed in House](#)

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP, also called Food Stamps, is a food aid program for low-income individuals and families. It is funded through the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and operated by the states.

What has happened so far?

There have been no cuts to SNAP as of April 2025.

However, the Administration has made cuts to other food aid programs, including a \$660M cut from the Local Food for Schools program, along with \$500M in cuts from a Local Foods program for food banks.

What changes are proposed?

Republicans in congress have passed a budget resolution that calls for \$230B in cuts to Agriculture Committee programs over 10 years to offset planned tax cuts, raising concerns that SNAP may be targeted for cuts.

These cuts would still need to be approved through legislation approved by the House, Senate, and President. The Agriculture Committee is expected to hold a “markup” to review legislation in early May.

Where can I get more information?

[Article on Threats to SNAP](#)

[Hunger in America | Feeding America](#)

MEDICAID

Medicaid is a federal healthcare program that provides health insurance coverage for more than 70 million low-income adults and children. Medicaid was established in the 1960s; it is partially federally funded but administered at the state level.

What has happened so far?

There have been no cuts to Medicare as of April 2025.

What changes are proposed?

Republicans in congress have passed a budget resolution that calls for \$880B in cuts within the committee that oversees

Medicaid, most of which would have to come from Medicaid. This would be roughly a 10% cut in federal spending on Medicaid.

These cuts would still need to be approved through legislation approved by the House, Senate, and President. The Energy & Commerce Committee is expected to hold a “markup” to review legislation in early May.

Where can I get more information?

[Putting \\$880 Billion in Potential Federal Medicaid Cuts in Context of State Budgets and Coverage - KFF](#)

HEAD START

Head Start is a federal program that offers early education and care programs and services for low-income families, currently supporting more than 800,000 infants and children. It is administered by the department of Health and Human Services.

What has happened so far?

No cuts have been made to Head Start funding yet.

However, the Administration closed five of 12 regional Head Start offices in early April and terminated many program staff, impairing the program's ability to function normally.

What changes are proposed?

News reports indicate that the Administration's 2026 budget request will propose to eliminate funding for Head Start.

However, the budget request has no legal effect, and Congress will determine 2026 funding levels for Head Start later in 2025.

Where can I get more information?

[Take Action for Head Start - NHSA](#)

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA)

The VA provides healthcare and other benefits for veterans and their dependents.

What has happened so far?

There have been no cuts to VA benefits as of April 2025.

What changes are proposed?

The Administration plans to cut more than 80,000 jobs, about 17% of the agency's total workforce. The VA already struggles with wait times for care, and staff reductions would likely make that problem worse.

Where can I get more information?

[About VA Health Benefits | Veterans Affairs](#)

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP provides federally funded assistance to reduce the costs associated with home energy bills, energy crises, weatherization, and minor energy-related home repairs, which is administered at the state level and serves 6.7M households, 40% are seniors. It is part of the Office of the Administration of Children and Families, within the Department of Health and Human Services.

What has happened so far?

In April the program's entire staff was laid off. Most of the funding had already gone to the states, but about 10% (\$400M) remains and hasn't been released.

What changes are proposed?

While no cuts have been proposed, without staff to oversee and distribute the funds, it is not clear if the program will continue or have its function transferred to another agency.

Where can I get more information?

[About LIHEAP | Office of Community Services](#)