

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA)

Personnel Summary

Staff at Work

- Life and Safety excepted positions :
(Air Traffic Organization – 23,856; Office of Aviation Safety – 216; Office of Security and Hazardous Materials – 61; and Other – 75) 24,208
- Staff necessary to the discharge the President's constitutional duties and powers: 62
- Positions funded by multi-year appropriations, indefinite appropriations, or contract authority:
(Airport Improvement Program (AIP) – 566; Research Engineering & Development – 218; Aviation Insurance – 2) 786
- Positions funded by franchise funds 1,511
- Positions supporting lawful continuation of other functions (e.g., support for Life and Safety positions): 571

Total Positions at Work 27,138

Positions to be Furloughed *: 16,288

Additional Positions to be furloughed after orderly shutdown: 1,503

Total Positions Furloughed 17,791

Total Positions: 44,929

* This total includes staff of the Office of Aviation Safety who would be initially furloughed but would be recalled incrementally over a two-week period.

Summary of Continuing Operations

The following operations will continue as excepted activities during a lapse in annual appropriations:

- Air traffic control services;
- Maintenance and operation of navigational aids and other facilities, including support to reimbursable Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security activities;
- Flight Standards field inspections (One manager per facility is excepted and inspectors are recalled over time; Facility manager will recall inspectors as necessary to maintain safety of the system);
- Airmen medical certifications;
- Hazardous materials safety inspections (safety inspectors will be recalled as necessary over time to maintain the safety of the system and/or respond to incidents);
- Air Traffic Control Specialist (ATCS) medical clearances;
- Air traffic safety oversight (limited);
- On-call accident investigations;
- Commercial space launch oversight;
- Command, control, communications, and intelligence (i.e., Regions and HQ Operations Centers, Intelligence Threat Watch, and emergency communication support);
- Foreign relations on aviation safety-related matters; and
- FAA's aircraft registry.

In addition, certain activities that will not be affected by a lapse in annual appropriations (but would be affected by a lapse in authorization) include:

- National aviation research, engineering, and development (RE&D) funded by multi-year appropriations;
- Airport inspections;
- Existing airport development grants;
- Passenger facility charge approvals; and
- Airport planning and environmental services funded by Airport Improvement Plan (AIP) contract authority;
- Aircraft certification services (limited).

Further, certain personnel are required to provide support services to safety personnel and to provide for the orderly shutdown of FAA activities. In general, it will take approximately four hours to shut down most of the agency's non-excepted activities, with the possible exception of activities necessary to issue stop work orders on contracts and employee furlough notices. FAA expects that the orderly shutdown work of contracting officers will be done within one day. Other activities may take two to three days to complete and will involve human resources and budget/finance personnel. Individuals providing support services to safety positions will report to work to provide employees excepted for the purpose directly protecting life and property with necessary legal, information technology, labor relation, and contract support services.

Also, initially the safety workforce would be limited to safety critical staff whose job is to perform urgent continued operational activity to protect life and property. If extended beyond a limited duration, FAA would bring back additional parts of the workforce to better manage safety risk. Employees doing certification and operational support work would remain on furlough.

Summary of Suspended Activities

- Development of new air traffic control specialists not certified to work a position;
- Issuance of airmen certificates;
- Approval of exemptions for unmanned aerial systems operations;
- Aviation rulemaking;
- Random drug testing of the non-Controller workforce;
- Facility security inspections, evaluations, audits and inspections;
- Routine personnel security background investigations and PIV card services;
- Continuity of Operations Planning;
- Development, operational testing, and evaluation of NextGen technologies;
- Development of NextGen safety standards;
- Air traffic performance analysis;
- Capital planning for FAA facilities and equipment;
- Investment planning and financial analysis;
- Dispute resolution;
- Audit and evaluation;
- Financial operations, controls, reporting and accountability;
- Most budgeting functions (except those necessary to provide necessary services to support excepted functions);
- Law enforcement assistance support;

- Most administrative support functions not required for support of life and safety “excepted” positions; and
- Congressional liaison services.

Assessment of Liquidating Cash

- FAA has sufficient liquidating cash to continue operations during a lapse in annual appropriations. AIP is the only FAA program that operates on Contract Authority.

Shutdown Checklist

- Shutdown plans are up-to-date and will be approved by the Administrator and senior staff prior to implementation.
- The Office of Human Resources has identified each position subject to a furlough, and preparations are in place to notify affected staff.
- Logistics are in place to provide for an orderly recall of employees and a return to normal operations, once annual appropriations are restored.
- FAA employees will be advised to listen to public broadcasts for information that a congressional action has been taken to fund the government, and they will be expected to return to work on their next regular duty day. In addition, FAA will place return to duty information on the FAA employee website and FAA’s toll-free number. FAA managers can also call employees to ensure staff members are aware they have been recalled to duty.