

The Rule That Would Politicize Every Federal Grant

What the Prevention Community Needs to Know — and Do

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Comment Deadline

July 13, 2026

Docket: OMB-2026-0034

What Is This Rule?

\$1.1

**TRILLION
Every year**

2 CFR Part 200 governs:

Every federal grant

From every agency

To every recipient

Including every State

Not just science grants — Medicaid, transportation, education, housing, and more

The Three Changes That Affect You Most

1

Political Appointees Replace Peer Review

§200.205

Political appointees must personally approve every grant — and are forbidden from deferring to peer reviewers.

2

Any Grant Can Be Canceled at Any Time

§200.340

Active grants can be terminated mid-project for political reasons. No misconduct required. No appeal.

3

Research Must Align With White House Priorities

§200.202

Every grant program must be designed around administration priorities — not scientific need or congressional mandate.

What Would Change for Healthcare & Service Providers



DEI and Related Prohibitions

§200.300



Disparate Impact Research & Programming Banned

§200.218



Issue Advocacy Prohibition

§200.450



Restrict Eligibility to Specific Nonprofit Categories

§200.202(d)



Public communications and outreach restricted

§200.421/450



Grants denied based on organizational affiliations

§200.206

What Communities Across Ohio Stand to Lose

1

Behavioral Health &
Treatment Programs

\$800M/yr at risk

2

Head Start &
Early Childhood

600K children served

3

School-Based
Prevention Funding

Cut with no appeal

4

Senior Services &
Meals on Wheels

\$2B/yr at risk

5

Rural Hospitals &
Health Clinics

Often the sole provider

6

Water, Broadband &
Infrastructure

Years of work lost

Why the Comment Period Matters

01

OMB Must Respond

Under the Administrative Procedure Act, OMB is legally required to read every comment and respond to every significant one in writing before finalizing this rule.

02

Builds the Legal Record

A strong comment record is what courts examine when this rule is challenged. Every documented harm from a real researcher strengthens the legal case.

03

Signals Congress

Volume and substance of opposition tells Congress this rule is contested — supporting Congressional Review Act action and appropriations riders to block implementation.

What Makes a Comment Powerful

✓ DO

- Write in your own words
- Name a specific provision (§200.205, §200.340 ...)
- Describe your specific research and the concrete harm
- State clearly: 'I request that §___ not be finalized'

✗ DON'T

- Copy someone else's comment
- Submit a form letter
- Write only general opposition without citing a section
- Skip a closing ask — OMB must respond to it

Your Four-Part Comment Template

1

Who you are

"I am a [researcher / faculty member / postdoc] at UC [campus] working on [brief description]."

2

Which provision

"I am writing to oppose §200.[XXX] which would [brief plain-language description of what it does]."

3

The concrete harm

"If this provision takes effect, my [grant / collaboration / study] would [specific harm]. My [students / participants / data] would [specific consequence]."

4

Your request

"I request that §200.[XXX] not be finalized. I urge OMB to withdraw this rule in its entirety."

Key Section Numbers to Cite

Pick one or two that directly affect your work

§200.205

Political appointees override peer review

§200.340

Grants terminated for political reasons

§200.202

Programs must align with White House priorities

§200.300

DEI and Related Prohibitions

§200.218

Disparate Impact Research & Programming Banned

§200.450

Issue Advocacy Prohibition

§200.202(d)

Restrict Eligibility to Specific Nonprofit Categories

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How to Submit Your Comment

1 Go to the link



2 Type or upload

Type in the text box (5,000 char limit)
or attach a Word / PDF document

3 Name optional

You can submit anonymously
Named comments from researchers carry more
weight

4 Click Submit

Takes about 10 minutes total
Save your tracking number

DEADLINE: July 13, 2026 at 11:59 PM Eastern | <https://www.regulations.gov/commenton/OMB-2026-0034-0001>

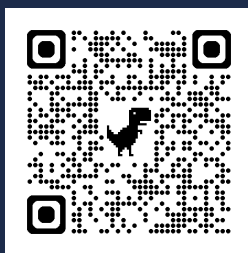
Go Beyond the Comment



Submit Your Comment

The most important individual action.
Closes July 13. Your testimony belongs in the
legal record.

<https://www.regulations.gov/commenton/OMB-2026-0034-0001>



Call Your Elected Officials

Ask them to support:

- Congressional Review Act resolution
- Appropriations riders blocking implementation
- Senate HELP & Commerce Committee oversight

The deadline is July 13.

Your comment is your testimony.

Submit: <https://www.regulations.gov/commenton/OMB-2026-0034-0001>

More reading: elizabethginexi.substack.com



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