




EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

March 1, 2013

M-13-06

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FROM: Jeffrey D. Zients 
Deputy Director for Management

SUBJECT: Issuance of the Sequestration Order Pursuant To Section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as Amended

This memorandum is to inform executive departments and agencies (agencies) that the President has issued a sequestration order (order) in accordance with section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, as amended (BBEDCA), 2 U.S.C. 901a. The order requires that budgetary resources in each non-exempt budget account be reduced by the amount calculated by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in its report to Congress of March 1, 2013, entitled *OMB Report to the Congress on the Joint Committee Sequestration for Fiscal Year 2013* (sequestration report).

Due to the failure of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction, the President was required by law to issue an order canceling \$85 billion in budgetary resources across the Federal Government for the remainder of Fiscal Year (FY) 2013. OMB has calculated that, over the course of the fiscal year, the order requires a 7.8 percent reduction in non-exempt defense discretionary funding and a 5.0 percent reduction in non-exempt nondefense discretionary funding. The sequestration also requires reductions of 2.0 percent to Medicare, 5.1 percent to other non-exempt nondefense mandatory programs, and 7.9 percent to non-exempt defense mandatory programs. The sequestration report provides calculations of the amounts and percentages by which various budgetary resources are required to be reduced, and a listing of the reductions required for each non-exempt budget account.

Agencies shall apply the same percentage reduction to all programs, projects, and activities within a budget account, as required by section 256(k)(2) of BBEDCA, 2 U.S.C. 906(k)(2). Agencies should operate in a manner that is consistent with guidance provided by OMB in Memorandum 13-03, *Planning for Uncertainty with Respect to Fiscal Year 2013 Budgetary Resources* and Memorandum 13-05, *Agency Responsibilities for Implementation of Potential Joint Committee Sequestration*.