

**US government in shutdown  
after failed budget talks:  
Americans left standing in  
front of closed doors**

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Republicans and Democrats are blaming each other. The Democrats would only agree if, in exchange, ..... subsidies were extended. But the Republicans refused.

As a result, Americans will soon be saddled with sky-high healthcare costs, says Democratic leader Chuck Schumer.

The Republicans, in turn, accuse the Democrats of 'holding the government hostage'. 'Democrats must stop sabotaging our country,' said Karoline Leavitt, spokesperson for the White House.

What exactly does a “government shutdown” entail?

Essentially, a “government shutdown” means that the .....  
government is closed. The funds have been exhausted, so  
government institutions come to a standstill.

This has far-reaching consequences, because federal government  
..... are not paid for as long as the shutdown lasts.

This includes ....., but also soldiers and .....  
controllers. ..... parks, museums and other federal  
institutions are also forced to close their doors as a result.

A shutdown is also dramatic for the American ..... . In 2023, investment bank Goldman Sachs calculated that economic growth would decline by ..... per cent each ..... as long as the government failed to agree on a budget.

Shutdowns have become more common in the US over the past 30 years, mainly due to close ..... results. As a result, the majorities in the House of Representatives and the Senate are small, which often leads to political deadlocks.