

GPO



# Free Digital and Print Content Distribution

Nationwide Federal Depository Library Program

# Expand Nationwide Access to Agency Publications with the Federal Depository Library Program

Authorized by Title 44, Chapter 19 of the U.S. Code, the mission of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) is to provide for no-fee, permanent public access to Federal Government information, now and for future generations.

Through this historic U.S. Government program, GPO disseminates information products from all three branches of the Federal Government to over **1,100 libraries nationwide**. Federal depository libraries are designated by law, or by their Representatives and Senators.

The FDLP is based upon three principles:

- Federal Government information products within scope of the FDLP shall be made available to Federal depository libraries.
- Federal depository libraries shall be located in each State and U.S. Congressional District to make Government information products more widely available.
- Federal Government information in all media shall be available for the free use by the general public.

## What Role Do Federal Agencies Play?

Federal agencies are required by statutory mandate to provide Federal publications to the FDLP (44 U.S.C. §§ 1902-1903). Publications published through GPO are automatically evaluated for inclusion in the FDLP. GPO covers the cost of distributing eligible print and electronic publications to libraries nationwide.

**Publications published online only, or printed through other vendors, need to be submitted for evaluation.**

All published Federal information dissemination products, regardless of format or medium (e.g., online, print, CD, DVD), which are of public interest or educational value, or produced using Federal funds, are to be provided to depository libraries for public use. Exceptions are those products that are:

- For official use only, or for strictly administrative or operational purposes that are not of public interest or educational value.
- Classified for reasons of national security.
- Constrained by privacy considerations.
- “Cooperative publications” which must be sold by the publishing agency in order to be self-sustaining.
- Protected under copyright and the Government does not have rights to publish or otherwise use the work for Federal purposes.

More information about the scope of the FDLP, and examples of publications that should be submitted, can be found in [Circular Letter No. 1056 – Disseminating Information Products to the Public through GPO’s Federal Depository Library Program](#).

## What Are the Benefits to Federal Agencies?

GPO makes Federal publications that are in scope of the FDLP:

- Searchable through the [Catalog of U.S. Government Publications \(CGP\)](#) and other GPO search tools.
- Available to over 1,100 Federal depository libraries nationwide, which commit to helping the public discover publications.
- Accessible via permanent link in order to guarantee future access.

## How Do I Notify GPO of Publications?

### Document Discovery

Has your agency already published an information product of public interest or educational value, for which there is no record in the [Catalog of U.S. Government Publications](#)? Visit GPO's [Dissemination Program](#) page for instructions on how to submit publications via [askGPO](#).

### Intent to Publish (Pre-Publication)

Are you preparing to publish through a GPO Regional Agency Procurement Service Team, a Simplified Purchase Agreement (SPA), or an outside publisher? Submit one of the following forms to the shared [IntentToPublish@gpo.gov](mailto:IntentToPublish@gpo.gov) email box PRIOR to submitting your job to the contractor or GPO RPPO:

- [Standard Form 1 \(SF-1\) Printing and Binding Requisition](#)
- [GPO Form 3868 Notification of Intent to Publish](#)
- [GPO Form 4044 Simplified Purchase Agreement \(SPA\) Work Order Form](#)

GPO will evaluate your publication for dissemination via the FDLP and/or inclusion in the Sales program, and ride for copies as appropriate.

## Contact Us

If you have questions about submitting your agency's publications for inclusion in the FDLP, or wish to discuss other mechanisms for notification (e.g., API), please contact us via [askGPO](#) by selecting the Federal Agency customer type and selecting the category 'Dissemination Program Question.'



**U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE**

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