
News Release



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GPO'S COLUMBUS BOOKSTORE TO CLOSE

The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) plans to close its Columbus bookstore to the public permanently on December 31, 2002. The bookstore is located in room 207 of the Federal Office Building at 200 North High Street.

The bookstore is being closed due to significantly reduced sales resulting primarily from the public's increased ability to access Government publications free of charge over the Internet, including most prominently the more than 225,000 Government titles currently available on the GPO's own Web site, **GPO Access** (www.gpo.gov/gpoaccess). With declining book sales nationwide, GPO is making changes in its sales program, including its other bookstores. Since June 2001, GPO has closed its San Francisco, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Birmingham, AL, bookstores as well as one of its three stores in the Washington, DC, area. In addition to the Columbus bookstore, the GPO bookstore in Cleveland will be closed on December 31, 2002. Other closings among the 16 remaining bookstores are under consideration.

The closing of the Columbus bookstore will not deprive residents in the Columbus area of access to U.S. Government publications. Those wishing to buy Government books can link to the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov>. The Online Bookstore's Sales Product Catalog includes all titles available for sale and can be searched by publication title, subject, or keywords. All available titles can be ordered securely online using Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover/Novus credit cards.

U.S. Government books can also be ordered toll free by telephone from 866-512-1800, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern time; by fax from 202-512-2250; or by mail from Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. Rapid delivery is available using FedEx.

Columbus area residents can also continue to locate and use U.S. Government books as well as online Government information free of charge in any of their local Federal depository libraries open to the public. In the Columbus area, these Federal depository collections are located at:

State Library of Ohio
Government Information Services
274 East 1st Avenue
ph. 614-644-7051

Capital University
Blackmore Library
2199 East Main Street
ph. 614-236-6614

Ohio State University
Main Library
1858 Neil Avenue Mall
ph. 614-292-6175

Columbus Metropolitan Library
Main Library
96 South Grant Avenue
ph. 614-645-2710

Ohio State University
Mortiz Law Library
55 West 12th Avenue
ph. 614-292-9463

**United States Government Printing Office
Washington, DC 20401**

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