

Regional Online Selections Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why did the Superintendent of Documents authorize regional depository libraries to select only the online format for some FDLP titles?

The Superintendent of Documents seeks to accommodate regional depository libraries and their need to effectively manage their depository resources and transition to a greater emphasis on digital collections, which requires increased flexibility and the reconsideration of past selection requirements. One way to provide this flexibility is to explore offering “EL” or online as a format selection option for regional depository libraries, without also requiring that they select an equivalent tangible version. A draft [Regional Depository Libraries Online Selections Superintendent of Documents Public Policy Statement](#) went into effect on August 31, 2021 for two titles, and an LSCM project team was formed to conduct a post-implementation analysis for the draft policy. More information on that project can be found on the [archived project page](#).

2. How can I find out what is authorized under Regional Depository Libraries Online Selections (SOD-PPS-2021-1) in my National Collection Service Area?

Consult the National Collection Service Area page for your regional depository: [Midwest](#), [Northeast](#), [South](#) or [West](#). You will find *Titles Eligible for Regional Online Selections* with a table stating the authorized titles and SuDoc stems, along with links to the specific authorizations posted on the [Superintendent of Documents Public Policies, Guidance, and Reports](#) page.

3. What if I have patrons who need a tangible copy of a superseded title, but my regional depository wants to select only the online format for that authorized title?

You could direct the patrons to the Print Selector for that title in your NCSA or assist them with an ILL request for the print format of that publication. Print Selectors for titles authorized for Regional Online Selections in each NCSA are listed on each NCSA page: [Midwest](#), [Northeast](#), [South](#) and [West](#). Regional depositories should endeavor to make informed decisions about the needs of users in their FDLP region. If the FDLP region decides local copies need to be retained, the region should identify a library able to house the material.

4. I plan to continue selecting a superseding title in paper format – can I sign a Print Selector agreement?

Yes! If your library is committed to selecting and retaining a superseded title until the content is superseded, please do consider signing a [Print Selector](#) agreement. If you plan on retaining the content permanently, consider becoming a [Preservation Steward](#). Doing so supports the [National Collection](#) and may help regional depositories alleviate space and staffing shortages.

5. What are the incentives to signing a Print Selector agreement?

Print Selectors play an important role in the [National Collection](#) providing access to print copies of titles that supersede, and therefore, are frequently weeded from depository collections. Print Selectors are doing their part to allow regional Federal depositories to more efficiently manage their regional FDLP collections. Print Selectors are acknowledged on both the [Regional Online Selections](#) page and on each NCSA page ([Midwest](#), [Northeast](#), [South](#) and [West](#)) on FDLP.gov.

6. What if circumstances at my library change and my depository library can no longer serve as a Print Selector?

Print Selector agreements can be terminated with 30 days written notice to the Superintendent of Documents. GPO will work to secure new Print Selector agreements to replace those that are terminated.

7. I am a depository coordinator at a selective depository – do I need to follow Regional Online Selection procedures and authorizations?

No. Regional Online Selection only applies to regional Federal depository libraries. Selective Federal depository libraries are not obligated to select any titles in the print format, and can work with Federal Depository Support Services to set an [item selection profile](#) that best fits their collection priorities and their user needs.