Introduction

The Government Publishing Office (GPO) and the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP)

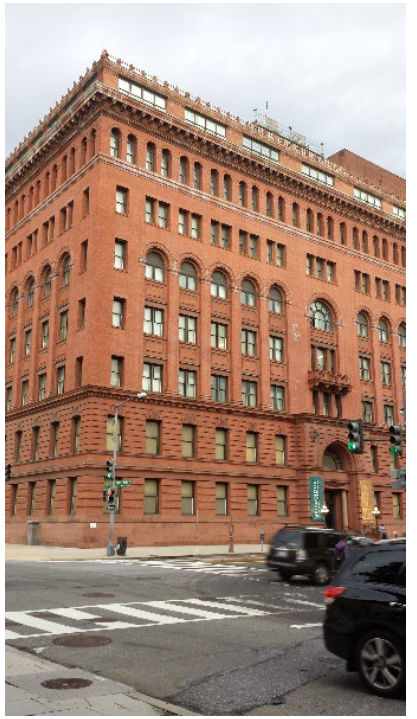
FDLP Depository Operation Training Series

Outline

- GPO Agency Overview
- GPO History
- FDLP History
- FDLP Structure and Operation
- FDLP Resources and Getting Help

GPO Agency Overview

About GPO



- GPO is a Legislative Branch agency, overseen by:
  - The Joint Committee on Printing
  - The Committee on House Administration
  - The Senate Rules & Administration Committee
- Funding sources: appropriated funds and cost recovery
- Publishing agency for the Federal Government

- Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) is administered by GPO

- Headquarters in Washington, D.C.
- Online U.S. Government Bookstore

Joint Committee on Printing

- Joint Committee created in 1846 (9 Stat. 114, 44 U.S.C. 101); one of the oldest joint committees of Congress
- Comprised of 5 House Members and 5 Senators
- Oversees the operations of GPO and generally oversees compliance by Federal agencies with laws, rules, and regulations designed to minimize printing costs

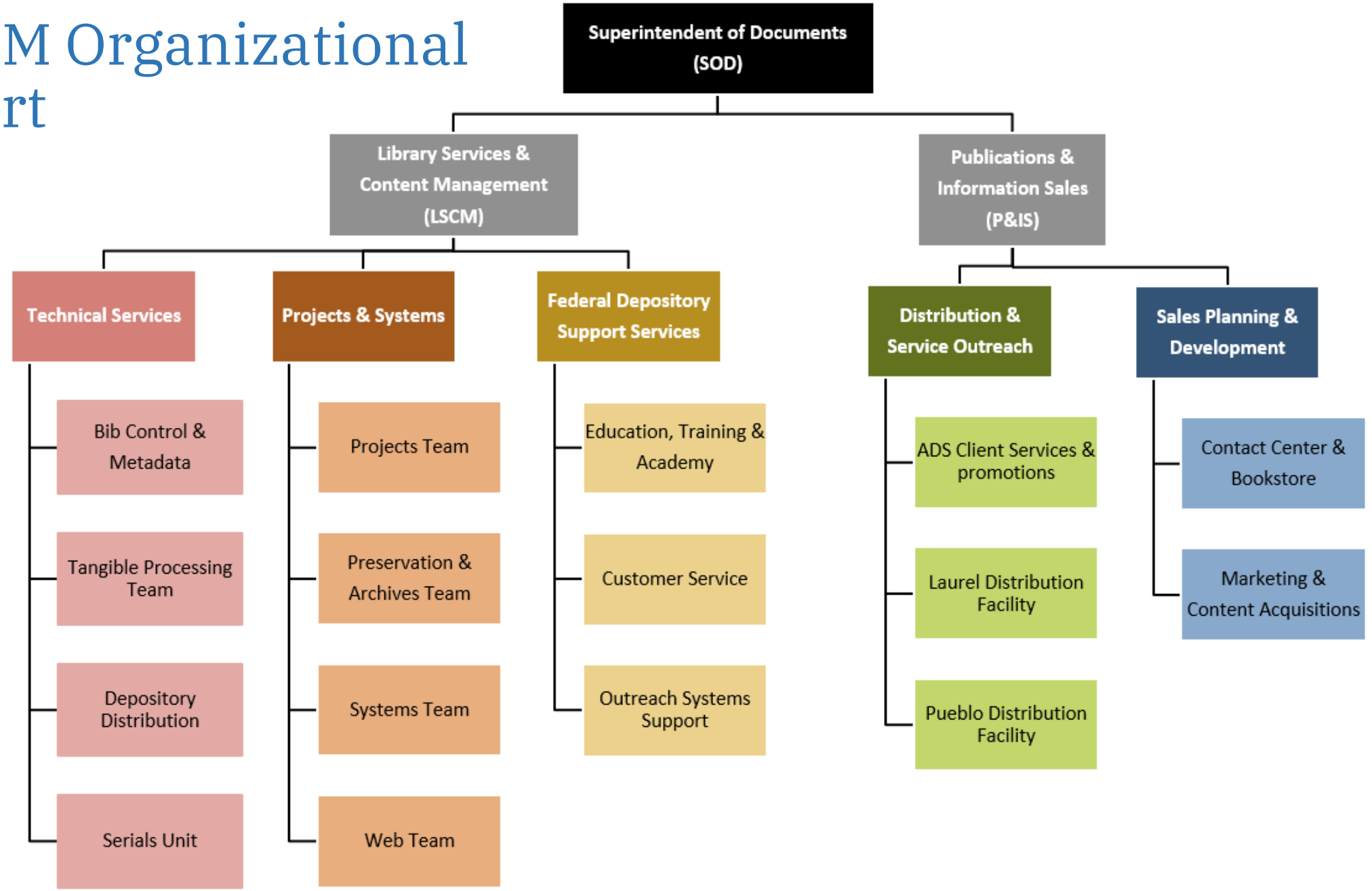
Committee on House Administration & Senate Rules and Administration Committee

- The House committee oversees federal elections and the day-to-day operations of the House of Representatives
  - The House committee also oversees management of GPO, the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Architect of the Capitol
- The Senate committee's oversight includes GPO and the printing and correction of the Congressional Record and other documents

Superintendent of Documents Programs

- **Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP)**
  - 44 U.S.C. chapter 19
- **Cataloging & Indexing Program (C&I)**
  - 44 U.S.C. chapter 17
- **By-Law Program**
  - 44 U.S.C. chapter 17
- **International Exchange Service (IES)**
  - 44 U.S.C. chapter 17
- **GPO Sales Program**
  - 44 U.S.C. chapter 17

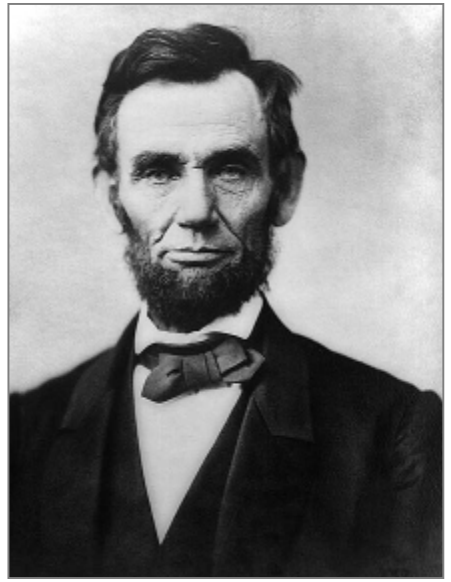
LSCM Organizational Chart



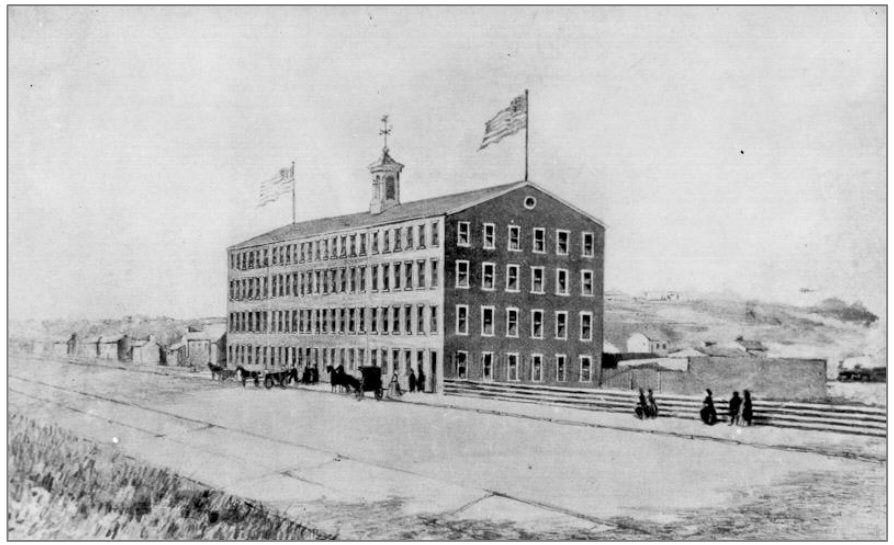
GPO History

GPO History

- Prior to GPO, printing was performed on contract by newspapers and other private printers.
- The mid 19th century witnessed high costs, ineffective service, and repeated scandals of contract printing.
- In response, Congress established the Government Printing Office, which opened its doors on March 4, 1861
- Renamed the Government Publishing Office in 2014



GPO Then and Now



Check out the GPO History web page

Watch the YouTube video Our Rich History

Watch a webinar on Publishing the Congressional Record

GPO History

For a history of printing operations, read "100 GPO Years, 1861-1961"

For a general, illustrated history, read "Keeping America Informed"

GPO now produces:

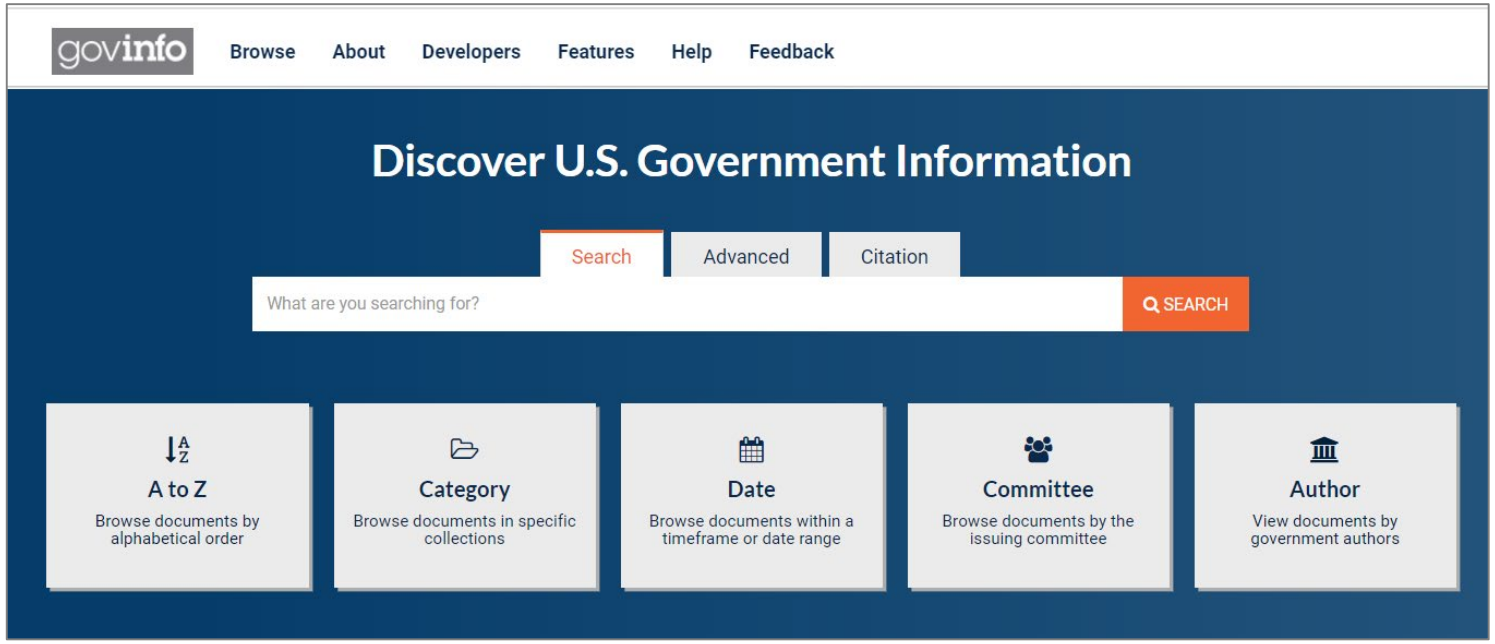
- Online databases of congressional and agency documents
- eBooks
- Print products on recycled substrates using vegetable oil-based inks
- Graphic design and digital media services for agencies
- Passports and secure credentials

GPO History – Online Milestones

- **"GPO Access Law“**
  - *Government Printing Office Electronic Information Access Enhancement Act of 1993* (Public Law 103-40)

- **GPO’s Federal Digital System (FDsys)**
  - FDsys launched (2009)
  - GPO Access retired (2012)

- **govinfo.gov official site** (2018)



FDLP History

FDLP History

- Government information has been sent to libraries since 1812; formerly the program was run by the Secretary of State (Act of 1813) and the Department of the Interior (Printing Act of 1852)

- Since 1895, the FDLP has been administered by the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) – formerly known as the Government Printing Office

- The FDLP was established by Congress (44 United States Code §1901-1916) to ensure that the American public has access to its Government's information

Evolution of the FDLP

- **Different library types added to program**
  - Libraries in executive departments (1895)
  - Military academies (1895)
  - Land grant colleges (1907)
  - Federal agencies (1962)
  - Highest appellate courts of the states (1972)
  - Law libraries (1978)
- **Regional/Selective system created**
  - Depository Library Act of 1962
  - Regional libraries designated as regionals by a Senator

FDLP History Milestones

1895: First Monthly Catalog appeared

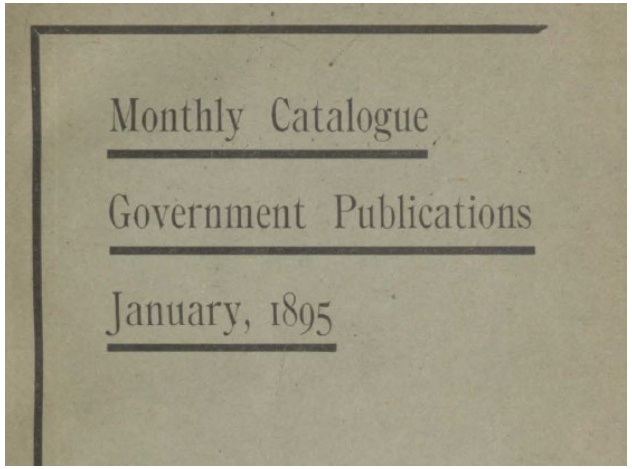
1895: Executive branch publications distributed

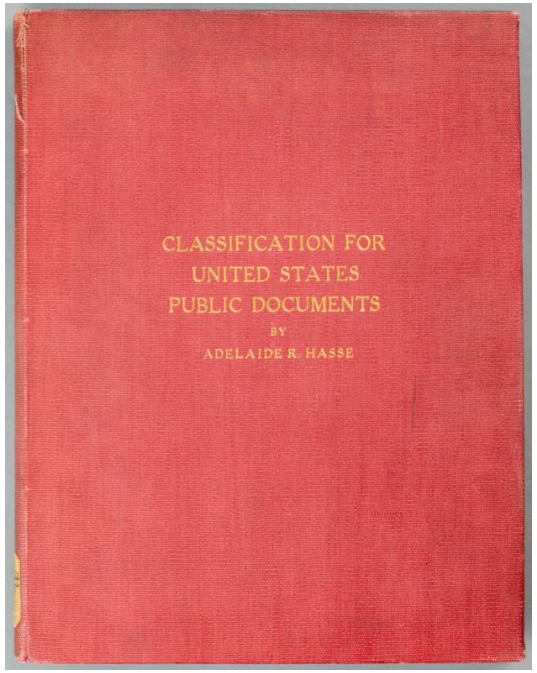
1895 (and on): SuDocs Classification System developed by GPO librarian Adelaide Hasse

1923: Item numbers first developed

1947: First Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries conducted

1962: Weeding permitted (outside of supersession) under regional/selective system





FDLP History Milestones

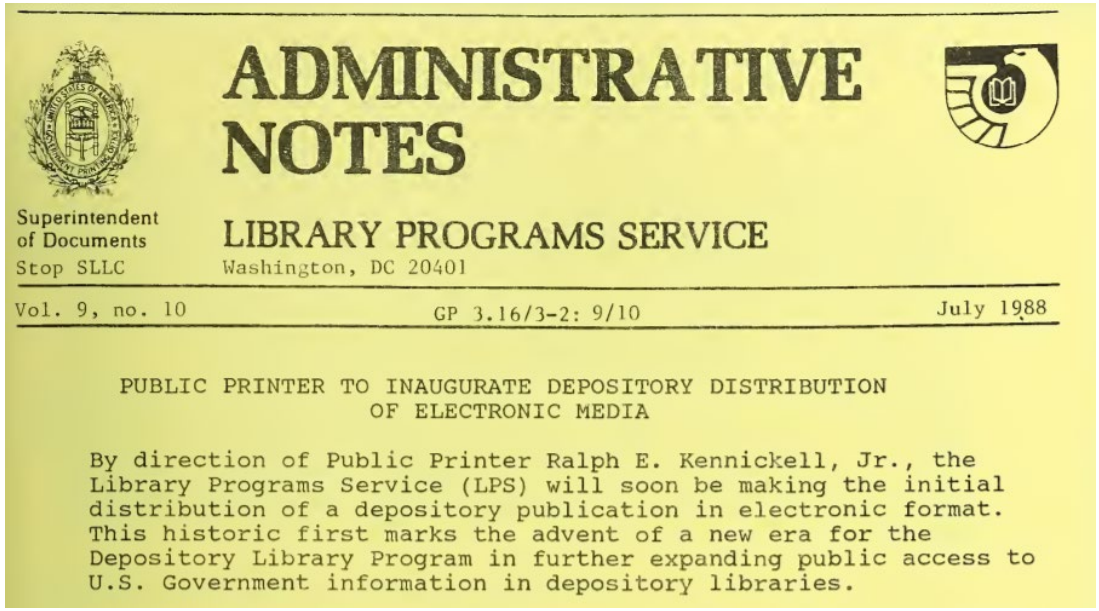
1972: GPO distributes microfiche to depository libraries

1988: First CD-ROM distributed to depository libraries

2006: Online Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP) launched

2012: Began project to convert Historic Shelflist cards (1870s-1992) into CGP records

2013: LSCM begins cataloging in new bibliographic standard: Resource Description and Access (RDA)



ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Superintendent of Documents
Stop SLLC

LIBRARY PROGRAMS SERVICE
Washington, DC 20401

Vol. 9, no. 10 GP 3.16/3-2: 9/10 July 1988

PUBLIC PRINTER TO INAUGURATE DEPOSITORY DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA

By direction of Public Printer Ralph E. Kennickell, Jr., the Library Programs Service (LPS) will soon be making the initial distribution of a depository publication in electronic format. This historic first marks the advent of a new era for the Depository Library Program in further expanding public access to U.S. Government information in depository libraries.

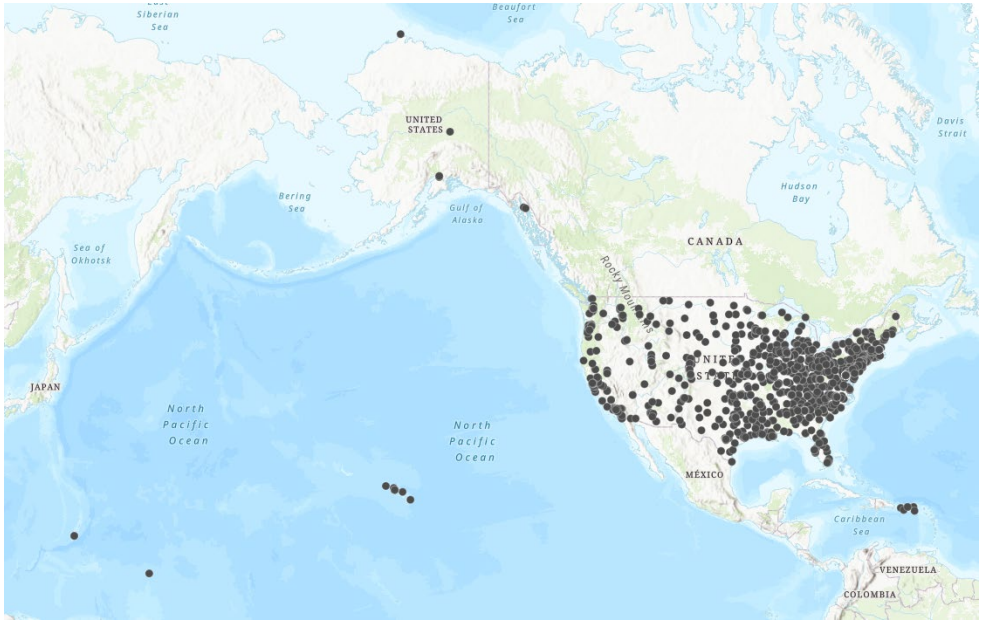
FDLP Structure and Operation

FDLP

Federal Depository Library Program

Who is in the FDLP?

Over 1,100 libraries of all types, located throughout the U.S.A. and its territories, are members of the FDLP



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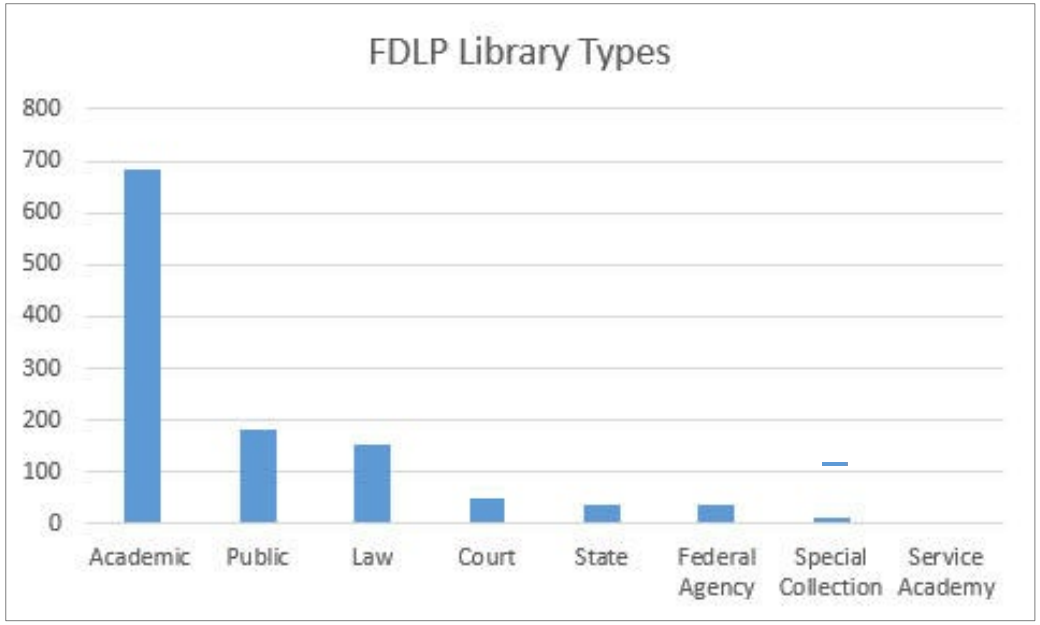


Why is the FDLP Important?

- The FDLP identifies, catalogs, and disseminates documents created by Federal government agencies, no matter what the format. This system provides order for government information and makes it visible.

- FDLP libraries provide free, public access to government information to everyone, promoting engagement and knowledge.

- The FDLP's rich collections of historic and current content are unique and important research material for all fields of study.

- The network of FDLP librarians and staff is an unparalleled source of expertise.

The Essential FDLP: https://www.fdlp.gov/about/the-essential-fdlp

How can a library join the FDLP?

- **FDLP libraries can be designated by U.S. Senators or U.S. House Representatives**
  - Limits:
    - 2 selectives per Congressional district (although redistricting means a district may contain more than two at any given time)
    - 2 selectives designated by Senators per state
    - 2 regionals per state (designated by Senators)
- **or "by-law" under specific sections of Title 44, U.S.C.**
  - Unlimited number allowed
  - Includes various library types, such as:
    - Land grant colleges
    - Federal agencies and libraries in executive departments
    - Law libraries
    - Military academies
    - Highest appellate state courts

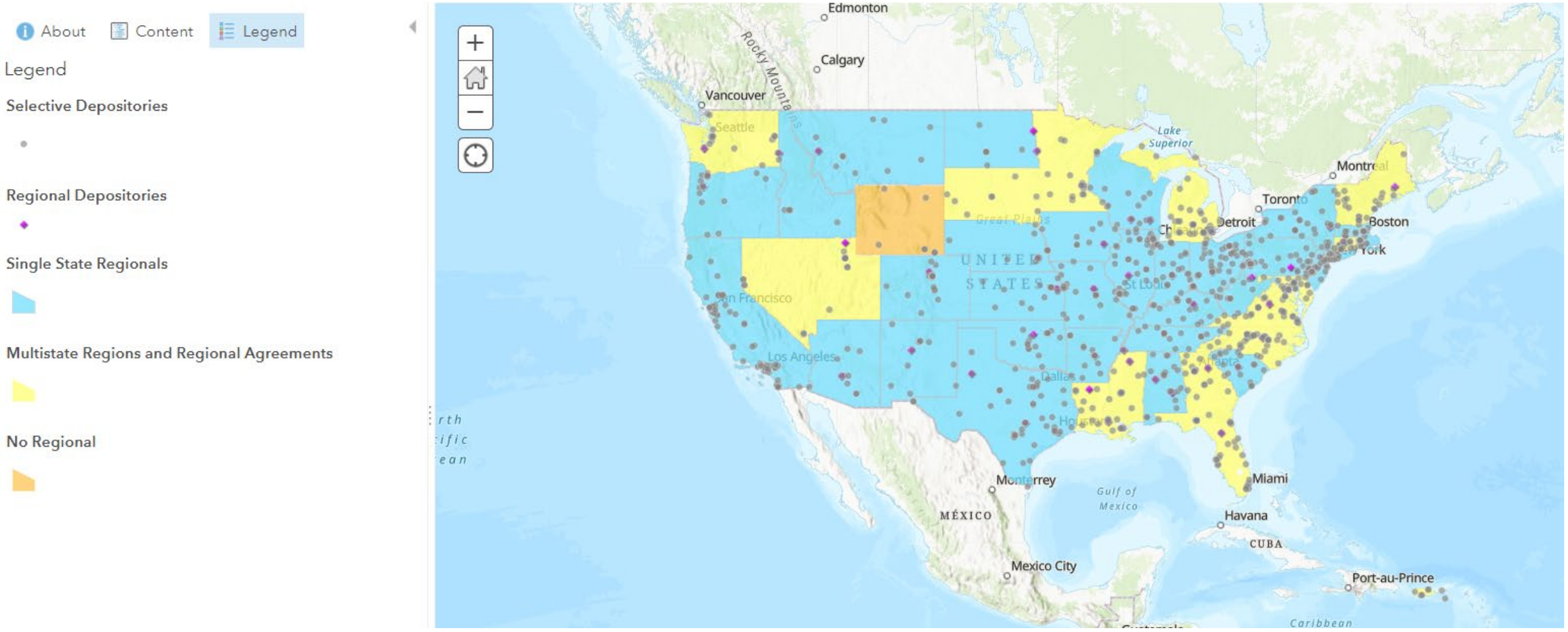
Regionals

- Receive and keep (almost) everything
- Serve as liaisons between the selective libraries in the state (or region) and LSCM
- Provide ILL and reference services to selectives
- Manage weeding, substitution, and the region's collection
- Provide consultation and services to their selectives
- Are designated by U.S. Senators as regional depositories (maximum two regionals per state)

Selectives

- Customize their depository collection
- Select what is suitable for their users and generally retain for at least 5 years
- Support and work with the regional
- May house a portion of the region's collection

FDLP Network and Its Evolution



Depository Library Council (DLC)

- Established in 1972 to advise the Public Printer (now Director) and the Superintendent of Documents on matters relating to the FDLP.

- Its antecedents go back to 1963 when seven librarians were asked by the Public Printer to serve on an advisory committee on depository libraries.

- The original advisory committee was formed at the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration during its consideration of revised legislation on depository libraries.

https://www.fdlp.gov/about/depository-library-council

Depository Library Council (DLC)

- DLC consists of **15 members** appointed by the Director of the GPO. Members serve **3 year terms, with 5 members retiring each year and 5 new members entering**. Members may be reappointed for a second term.

- All appointments to Council are made by the Director of the GPO after consideration of recommendations from Council, library associations, and others as deemed appropriate by the Director of the GPO.

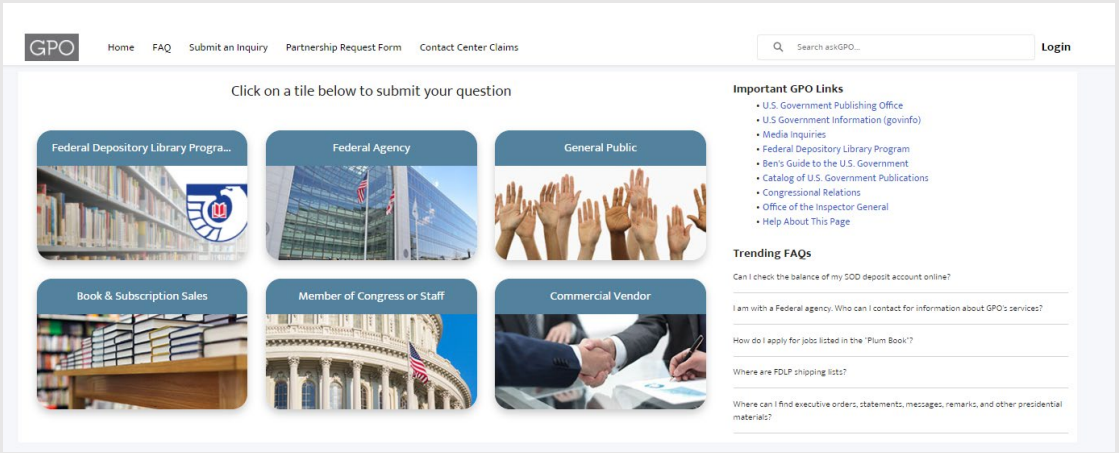
- Members represent a cross section of the various types of libraries in the Federal Depository Library Program.

- At least half of the Council's members work in depository libraries and have experience providing services for Government information.

FDLP ACADEMY
Engage and Empower through Education

govinfo

FDLP Resources and Getting Help



FDLP.gov Website

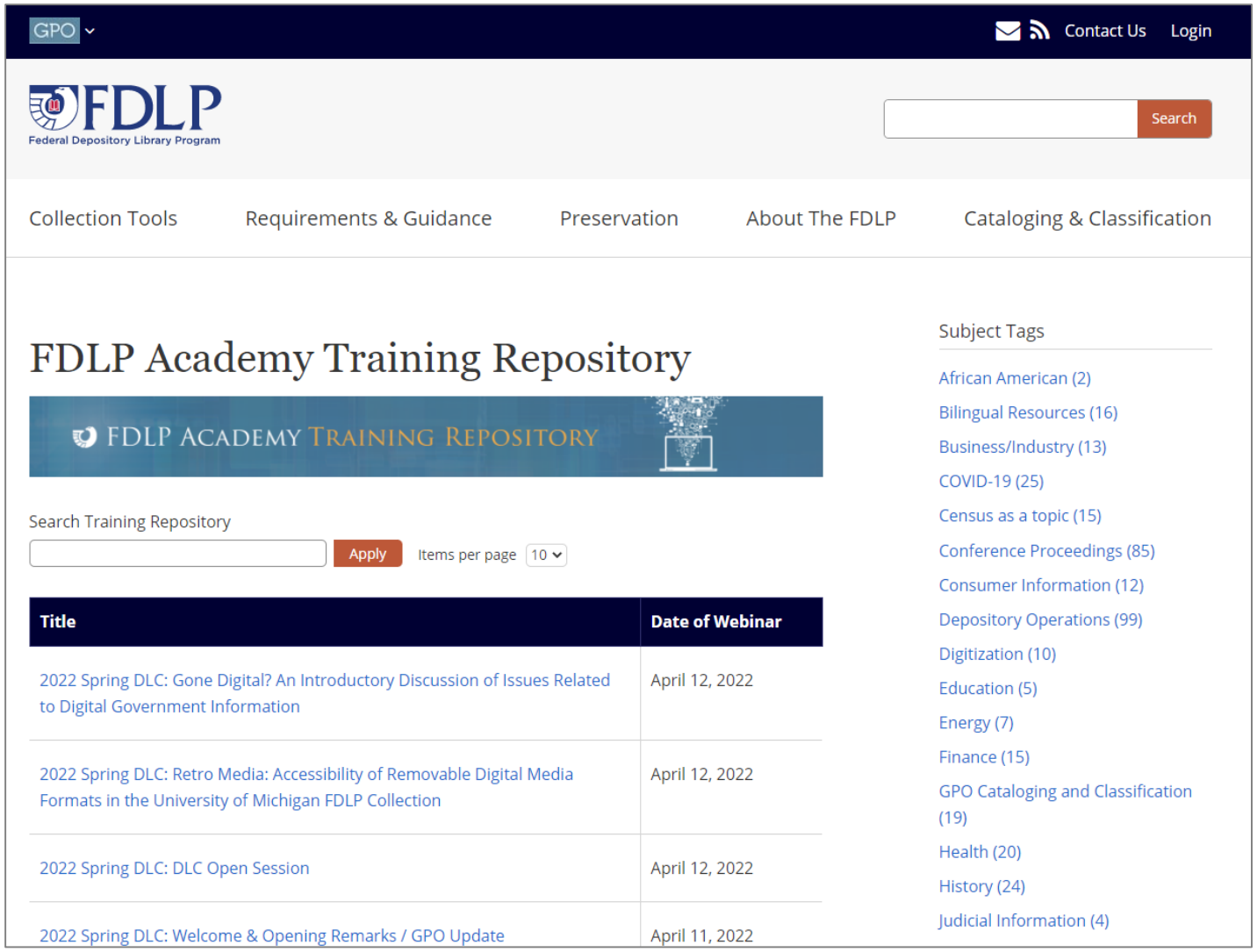
www.fdlp.gov

Best place for:

- FDLP news feed and announcements
- Legal Requirements and Guidance
- Operational tools
  - DSIMS, Item Lister, WebTech Notes, etc.
- GPO Training/Webinar info
- Promotional materials

FDLP Academy Training Repository

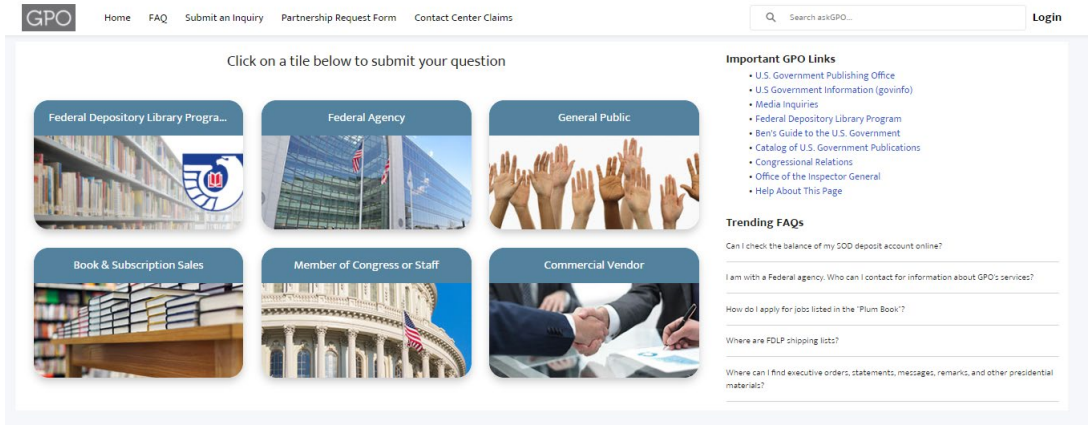
- Webinars
- Webcasts
- Continuing learning
- https://www.fdlp.gov/training



Getting Help from GPO

Use askGPO

https://ask.gpo.gov



Prefer a phone call? Contact Federal Depository Support Services

202-512-1119

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 6103(p)(4) of such Code is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) by striking "or (22)" and inserting "(22), or (23)"; and

(B) in subparagraph (F)(ii) by striking "or (22)" and inserting "(22), or (23)".

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to disclosures made on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

○