

Promotion, Responsibilities, and Trends

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

FDLP Depository Operation Training Series

The Essential FDLP



Our update to Fulfilling Madison's Vision

Stories, testimonials, and short videos about the importance, value, and vital nature of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) and Government information.

Submit your testimonial!



About the FDLP

The Essential FDLP: Share Your Experiences with GPO



Details

Last Updated: October 31 2019

Published: September 05 2019

Why is the FDLP and free access to Government information important? How has the FDLP helped you? GPO wants to share your thoughts and spread the word in your communities, and we need your help.

GPO's Library Services & Content Management is gathering stories, testimonials, and short videos about the importance, value, and vital nature of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) and Government information.



"Our rural community college library is the only library in our town and serves a significant number of community patrons in addition to our students. Our small collection of tangible government documents allows a community that has very little



"I would not be where I am today if it wasn't for two amazing FDLP librarians, Peggy Roebuck Jarrett and Cass Hartnett. I found a love of and a passion for Government documents through their love and passion for the materials. I commemorated my graduation by getting my FDLP logo tattoo. It was the perfect tribute to both them and what the FDLP means to me."

—Charlie Amiot, Student Services and Outreach Law Librarian, University of Kentucky, College of Law Library



"Budgets are a big issue with libraries so one of the advantages about being a federal depository is that we obtain our collection for free and can work with other depositories to receive resources or documents that may be needed, also free of charge."

—Whitney Gerwitz, Government Documents Coordinator, St. Charles City-County Library District, Middendorf-Kredell branch

Partnerships – so many to choose from!

Partnerships

- Preservation Steward
 - Digital Preservation Steward
 - Digital Content Contributor
 - Digital Access Partner
 - Cataloging & Metadata Contributor
 - Print Selector
 - Others!
- 

Collaborate to provide:

- Permanent public access to electronic content.
- Access to services that allow Federal depository libraries to enhance their collections.
- Access to services and resources that connect the public to its Government's information.
- Access to resources that assist Federal depository libraries to manage their collections.
- Preserve tangible Federal depository collections.

LSCM Pilot Projects

- GPO does not have gift authority, but can carry out projects with libraries by providing resources and services on targeted initiatives
- Opportunity One: Closed October 15, 2021
 - Cataloging, item-level inventory, condition assessment, and digitization of between 200-300 monographs from the U.S. Department of War (formed 1789; dissolved 1947) Superintendent of Documents call number stem W or other war-era temporary agencies.
- Opportunity Two: Closed April 15, 2022
 - Cataloging, item-level inventory, condition assessment, and digitization of a collection of 200-300 Federal Government print publications focused on a state, region, common theme, or topic, and preferably those without records in the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications.

Preservation

- As fewer copies of older material reside in libraries, it becomes more important to preserve/conserve what copies we do have
- There is a [Preservation](#) page on FDLP.gov with helpful information
 - Guidance and best practices
 - “What to do if a disaster strikes...” (cheat sheets)
 - Consultation and collaboration
 - Recorded webinars
 - Preservation Services pilot initiatives
- Contact info: preservefedinfo@gpo.gov

Outreach to Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCUs) & Tribal College Libraries

- Goal is to build upon the work library staff undertake supporting and serving their communities through:
 - Attendance and engagement at a variety of conferences, meetings, and workshops.
 - Direct communication with librarians at Tribal Libraries and HBCUs.
 - Recommending resources and collections of possible interest to the communities.
 - Tapping library staff for their expertise in identifying resources for inclusion in the FDLP
- GPO is monitoring library community discussions and developments in building diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)

Partnerships – Pilot Projects – Consultations – Outreach – what is going on???

Strengthen the FDLP network.

Build a safety net for older and
at-risk publications &
information.

Keeping America Informed
takes care, time, attention,
planning, & passionate people.



The Coordinator

Responsibilities required of the depository coordinator:

- Serve as the point of contact with GPO, including emails, phone calls, surveys, recalls of publications etc.
- Participate in the Public Access Assessment of the depository collection.
- Maintain a thorough knowledge of the current legal requirements and Program regulations.

LRPR 31

Responsibilities that must be done, and are frequently handled by coordinator:

- Reading news & updates distributed via the FDLP News & Events email alert service (LRPR 4)
- Updating the Federal Depository Library Directory (LRPR 5)
- Biennial Surveys (LRPR 46)
- Item selection profile (LRPR 6)

Recommended listservs



GOVDOC-L <http://govdoc-l.org/>

DOCTECH-L <https://lists.usu.edu/wws/info/doctech-l>

MAPS-L <https://listserv.uga.edu/scripts/wa-UGA.exe?SUBED1=maps-l&A=1>

Regional-L closed list - regionals only

Local state/region Listservs

<https://www.ala.org/rt/godort/godortmembership/stateregional>

FEDLIB <http://www.loc.gov/flicc/listsrvs.html>

Professional development

- Listservs
- Websites
- Professional organizations
- Communication with other depository coordinators
- Library literature
- Conferences/webinars
 - FDLP Academy
- Mentoring





FDLP ACADEMY

Engage and Empower through Education

The goal of the [FDLP Academy](#) is to:

- Inform and educate the Federal depository library community about Federal Government information resources
- Assist Federal depository libraries in better serving their communities
- Advance Government information literacy



FDLP ACADEMY

Engage and Empower through Education

FDLP Academy

Last Updated: March 16, 2022 **Published:** November 09, 2021

Welcome to the FDLP Academy

The goals of the FDLP Academy are to:

- Inform and educate the Federal depository library community about U.S. Government information resources.
- Assist Federal depository libraries in better serving their communities.
- Advance Government information literacy.

Through this collaboration between the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO), Federal depository libraries, and other Federal agencies, FDLP library partners and the public will be better engaged and empowered with U.S. Government information. FDLP Academy, a service of GPO, enhances U.S. Government information knowledge through:

- Events and conferences coordinated by GPO.
- Webinars and webcasts on a wide variety of Government information topics, presented by GPO, other Federal agencies, or from the FDLP community.

FDLP Academy Mission:

Create and deliver enhanced educational opportunities to the FDLP community by fostering collaboration, by facilitating knowledge sharing, and through the application of new methods and use of multiple mediums.

Testimonials

"These programs over the last few years and during the pandemic have truly been exceptional and everyone in the home office at GPO needs to be complimented for superior work."

—John Leonard Berg
University of Wisconsin -
Platteville

[Read more testimonials](#)



Go to the [FDLP Events Calendar](#) to see upcoming events. Click on the event in the calendar to get more detailed information about the event.

Sharing is Caring – Pass it forward please!

If you have an area of expertise...

If you went down a rabbit hole when working on a reference question and accidentally became the authority in a topic...

If you hammered out a procedure to solve a challenge with a task that applies to the FDLP operation...

...Please share your knowledge with others!

Volunteer to present a webinar or webcast in the FDLP Academy.

Believe us:

There is no ceremony where someone is knighted a “Gov Doc Expert.”

There is no specific degree you can earn in this field.

This is a guild-like arena where everyone helps each other out, so we can all learn and grow as professionals.



Since we are talking about happy things...

Don't forget to celebrate your depository anniversary!

[Celebrating Depository Anniversaries](#)

- Learn more about planning & promoting an event, get ideas & certificates or a plaque.

[Anniversary Celebrations](#)

- To see photos of library events, get inspired, & share your event with others.



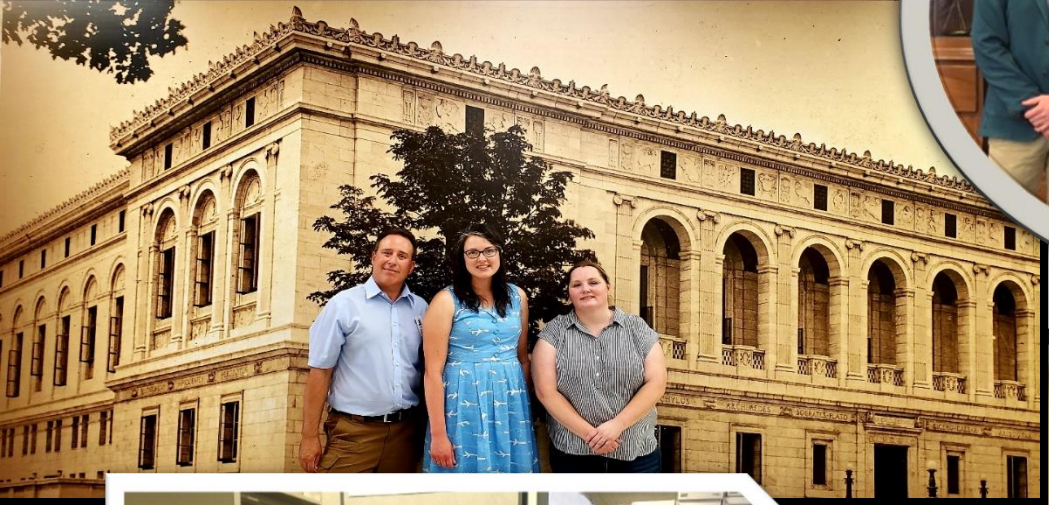
Mmmm...cake 😊

Southeastern Louisiana University's Sims Library

To track down your designation date, look in the FDL Directory. Don't see a date? It likely means we do not have the actual documentation. Use [askGPO](#) to ask us for what documentation we do have.

GPO visits & training

- We love visiting you all in your libraries!
- GPO staff witness current library trends & challenges
- May be a part of a Public Access Assessment
- Library staff (hopefully) learn about depository operations
 - We bust a lot of myths when we visit libraries (yes it's cool)
- Library staff (hopefully) take us up on the opportunity to provide training
 - Training can be focused on depository operations or generalized “Gov Docs 101” information suitable for all staff
 - In our experience, donuts are a strong factor in attendance, but everyone walks away psyched about gov docs anyway



The FDLP is changing (for the better)

A lot of energy has been directed at updating Title 44 of the USC.

We still aim to work with congress and the community to do that

But in the meantime - we are moving forward with re-interpreting the existing framework and enabling changes.

The 2015 JCP decision to permit regionals to weed material in certain circumstances, and the adoption of the Guidelines for Establishing Shared Regional Depository Libraries opened up a world of flexibility, enabling regionals to think at a larger level than just their local region.

Trends to look out for:

- Anything related to the National Collection
 - Fewer copies = increased scrutiny of what remains & increased collaborative efforts to manage it
 - Collaborative project opportunities are forthcoming as every cataloging, preservation, training, & digitization project ultimately ties in with the National Collection and the mission of the FDLP.
- New CGP ahead
- End of microfiche: It is the end of an era and a bit of a headache for those responsible for comprehensive collections
- LSS – Library Services System
 - Bringing FDLP tools together

Getting Help from GPO

Use askGPO

<https://ask.gpo.gov>

Prefer a phone call?
Contact Federal
Depository Support
Services

202-512-1119

