

Digital FDLP Implementation: Frequently Asked Questions

What will be distributed in print through the Federal Depository Library Program?

As the FDLP transitions to digital as the primary mode of access and preservation of newly published material, some tangible titles will continue to be distributed and are included on the Print Distribution Titles List.

What is the Print Distribution Titles List?

The [Print Distribution Titles List \(PDT\)](#) consists of titles that will continue to be distributed in paper format. The quantity of copies available fall into three categories:

- **Unlimited distribution titles** will be distributed at current selection quantities and includes the U.S. Code, Statutes at Large, U.S. Reports, Constitution of the United States (Analysis & Interpretation, including supplements), House and Senate Journals, and Bound Congressional Record Index.
- **20-copy titles** include Serial Set (both bound and individually published House and Senate Reports and Documents), Bound Congressional Record (Proceedings & Daily Digest), and select maps.
- **50-copy titles** include all other titles on the PDT list.

How were the titles selected for the Print Distribution Titles List?

Titles were selected based on a mix of the following criteria:

- Statutory requirements for the title to be printed
- Popularly selected serial titles
- Non-ephemeral maps where the online version lacks sufficient resolution
- Time-series statistical data
- Of a reference nature
- Print version is the legally controlling version in some jurisdictions

How are the Print Distribution Titles allocated to libraries?

Due to their long-term commitment to print retention, first priority for selection will be given to Preservation Stewards and regionals. Beyond this, LSCM is in the process of gathering data to help determine a fair and equitable means of distribution to libraries. LSCM will work to distribute copies geographically, but will ensure at least one copy is distributed and retained per National Collection Service Area (NCSA). In the interim, tangible material will continue to be distributed to libraries as the phased out tangible titles are produced, processed, and shipped. All titles on the Print Distribution Titles List are opt-in for selections. No library will be forced to select a copy.

Do regionals have to continue receipt of each of the Print Distribution Titles?

No, regionals are not obligated to take all or any of the Print Distribution Titles. No library will be forced to take a copy of a title they do not want to receive. All other responsibilities

remain unchanged for now. Regionals must wait to deselect any items in DSIMS until authorized to do so by LSCM.

Will all Print Distribution Titles have to be selected by the same libraries?

The goal is to get the print copies into libraries whose patrons have a demonstrated need for the tangible format or whose institutions are committed to the long-term public access and preservation of the copies through signed agreements. As these needs are varied, libraries that receive publications from the PDT list will vary as well.

What are the incentives to stay in the Program?

LSCM will expand its Special Selection Offer (SSO) opportunities for Federal depository libraries to acquire print copies of high interest titles with broad or geographic appeal. SSOs will continue on a first-come, first-served basis, with LSCM ensuring each NCSA will have at least one copy.

GPO is committed to increasing access to and discovery of digital Government information through libraries in the FDLP. LSCM is strengthening its capacity for digital imaging, ingesting content into GovInfo, enhancing bibliographic records, and increasing awareness of digital content. Enhanced tools, support, and services for digital content are primary goals for LSCM.

Online Federal Government information often requires professional expertise to find, understand, and interpret. Expert librarians in Federal depository libraries will continue to be a resource for all users who need assistance in accessing and using Government information resources, in all formats. FDLs continue to support democracy and a mission of *America Informed*. To that end, LSCM will increase training and professional development through FDLP Academy.

By implementing a new, limited distribution model and shared collection management within National Collection Service Areas (NCSAs), GPO is easing space constraints in many libraries. This will also save on processing costs in depository libraries.

Will Print Distribution Titles, going out in reduced quantities, face different FDLP rules?

Rules and guidance are being drafted, though in general, libraries that receive Print Distribution Titles can expect a greater emphasis on:

- Interlibrary Loan (ILL)
- Cataloging and discoverability for those publications
- Preservation of copies to ensure continued public access in the future

What will happen to my FDLP shipments in the upcoming months?

The transition from the old distribution model to the Print Distribution Titles model will be gradual and will happen at different times for different titles. This means the content and

quantity of material received in shipment boxes will likely change slowly, depending on current selections.