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Federal Register

Introduction to the OFR's Beta eCFR Website and Other Online Resources

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FDLP Webinar
3 September 2020



What We Will Discuss

- Brief overview of Federal Register and Code of Federal Regulations
- Genesis and purpose of Beta eCFR website
- Demonstration the Beta eCFR website – ecfr.federalregister.gov
- Other online resources



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Brief Overview of Federal Register & Code of Federal Regulations

NATIONAL ARCHIVES *and* RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

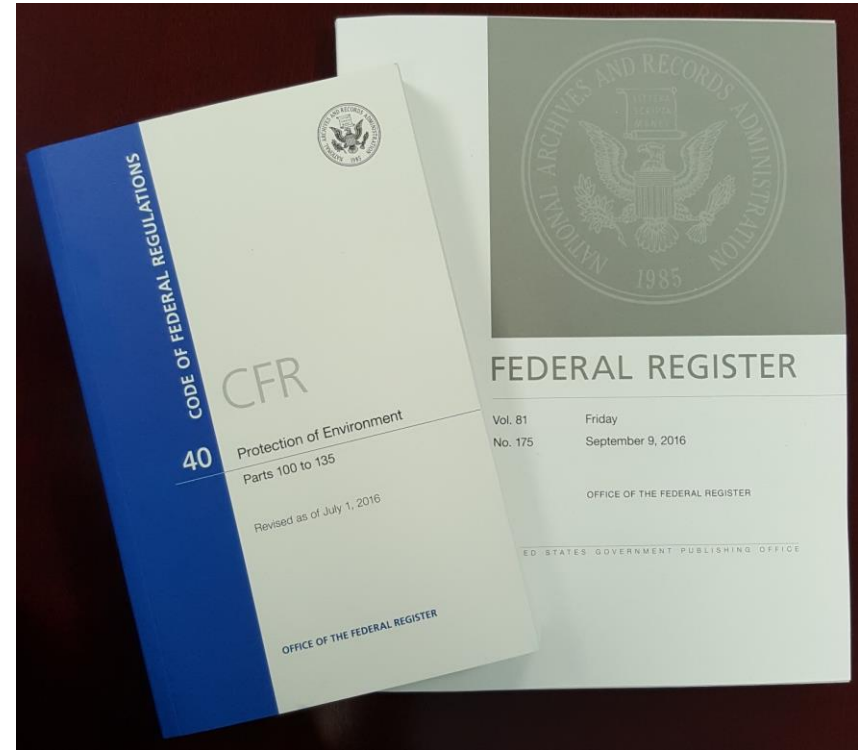


Office of the Federal Register

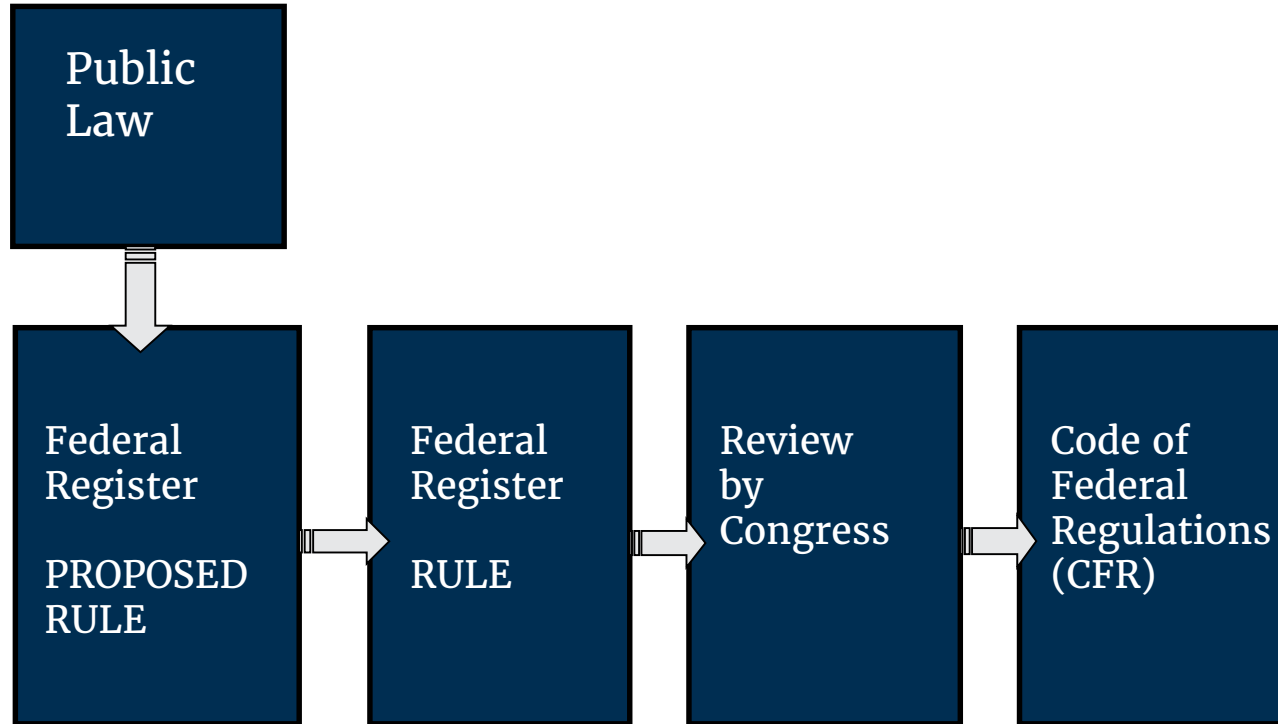
- Part of the National Archives and Records Administration
- Created in 1935
- Federal Register was OFR's first publication in 1936
- Code of Federal Regulations came soon after
- More publications added over time
- Additional duties
 - Electoral College
 - Constitutional amendments

Federal Register & CFR

- Federal Register is the official gazette of the United States Government which contains rules, proposed rules, notices, and presidential documents
- CFR is the codification of rules published in the Federal Register

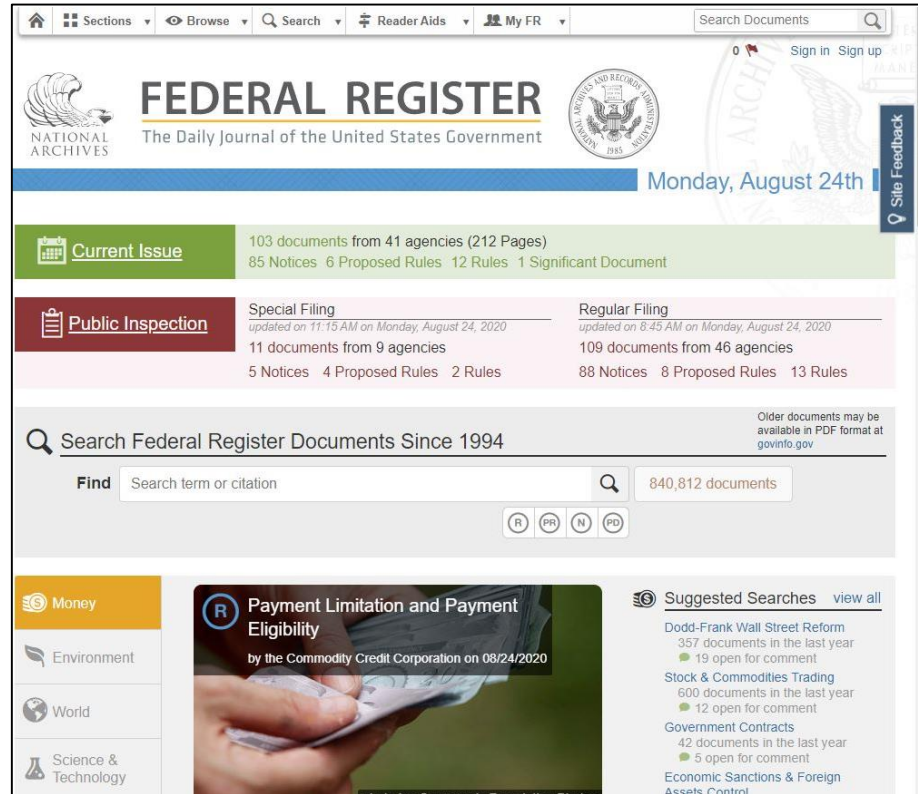


The Regulatory Process



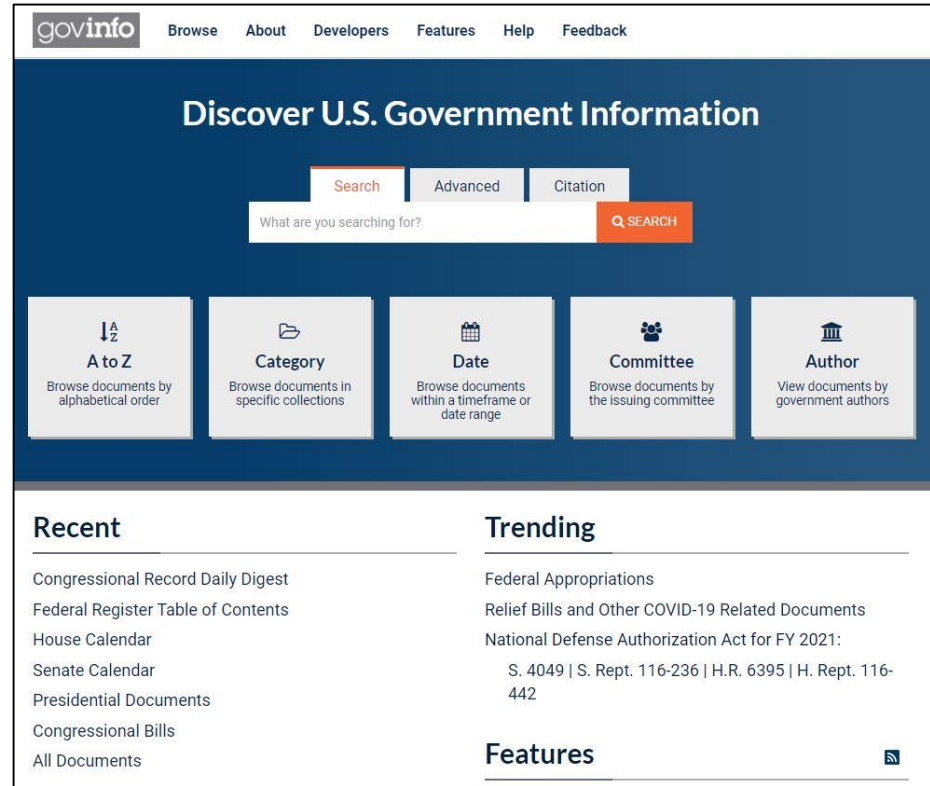
FederalRegister.gov

- Federal Register website
- Updated each business day
- Current issue / past issues
- Public Inspection
- Presidential document pages
- Search tools
- MyFR Accounts



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Federal Register website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Sections, Browse, Search, Reader Aids, and My FR. A search bar is located on the right side of the navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, the main header features the National Archives logo on the left, the text "FEDERAL REGISTER The Daily Journal of the United States Government" in the center, and the Seal of the National Archives and Records Administration on the right. The date "Monday, August 24th" is displayed in a blue banner. Below the header, there are several sections: "Current Issue" with a green background, "Public Inspection" with a red background, and "Regular Filing" with a pink background. Each section provides a summary of documents, notices, and rules. A search bar is located below these sections, with the text "Search Federal Register Documents Since 1994" and "Older documents may be available in PDF format at govinfo.gov". The search bar contains the text "Find Search term or citation" and "840,812 documents". Below the search bar, there are several categories: "Money", "Environment", "World", and "Science & Technology". A featured article titled "Payment Limitation and Payment Eligibility" is displayed, along with a "Suggested Searches" section listing various topics and the number of documents in the last year.

- Provides free access to official publications from all three branches of government
- All OFR publications are available in PDF format on govinfo.gov including:
 - Federal Register
<https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/fr>
 - Code of Federal Regulations
<https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/cfr>



The screenshot shows the govinfo.gov homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Browse, About, Developers, Features, Help, and Feedback. The main heading is "Discover U.S. Government Information". Below this is a search bar with tabs for "Search", "Advanced", and "Citation". The search bar contains the text "What are you searching for?" and a "SEARCH" button. Below the search bar are five filter buttons: "A to Z" (Browse documents by alphabetical order), "Category" (Browse documents in specific collections), "Date" (Browse documents within a timeframe or date range), "Committee" (Browse documents by the issuing committee), and "Author" (View documents by government authors). At the bottom, there are two columns: "Recent" and "Trending". The "Recent" column lists: Congressional Record Daily Digest, Federal Register Table of Contents, House Calendar, Senate Calendar, Presidential Documents, Congressional Bills, and All Documents. The "Trending" column lists: Federal Appropriations, Relief Bills and Other COVID-19 Related Documents, and National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2021: S. 4049 | S. Rept. 116-236 | H.R. 6395 | H. Rept. 116-442. There is also a "Features" section at the bottom right with a small icon.

- Difference between CFR and eCFR
- Updated each business day
- Search engine
- Simple versioning



Home
gpo.gov
govinfo.gov

Browse / Search Previous

e-CFR Navigation Aids
Browse
Simple Search

Advanced Search
— Boolean
— Proximity

Search History
Search Tips
Corrections
Latest Updates
User Info
FAQs
Agency List
Incorporation By Reference

Electronic Code of Federal Regulations
e-CFR

Related Resources
The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) annual edition is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the departments and agencies of the Federal Government produced by the Office of the Federal Register (OFR) and the Government Publishing Office.

Download the Code of Federal Regulations in XML.

Electronic Code of Federal Regulations

We invite you to try out our new beta eCFR site at <https://ecfr.federalregister.gov>. We've made big changes to make the eCFR easier to use. Be sure to leave feedback using the Help button on the bottom right of each page!

e-CFR data is current as of **August 20, 2020**

USER NOTICE
The Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (e-CFR) is a currently updated version of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). It is not an official legal edition of the CFR. The e-CFR is an editorial compilation of CFR material and *Federal Register* amendments produced by the National Archives and Records Administration's Office of the Federal Register (OFR) and the Government Publishing Office. The OFR updates the material in the e-CFR on a daily basis. The current update status appears at the top of all e-CFR web pages [More](#).

Browse: Select a title from the list below, then press "Go".

Title 1 - General Provisions

Need assistance?



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Genesis and Purpose of Beta eCFR Website

Reasons for eCFR Upgrade

- Current eCFR website designed around 2000 based on SGML
- Make eCFR website more accessible to users
- Follow approach of FederalRegister.gov website from 10 years ago
- Use XML – GPO posts a daily eCFR package in XML



Branding and Appearance

- Use similar branding and page layout on FR and eCFR
- Show both websites are from the same organization
- Demonstrate the connections between the publications

Better Way to Display Material

- Present the CFR as a collection of titles and not as a collection of volumes
- Show the CFR as a complete whole
- Create ability to skip browsing and jump to a specific chapter or section



Improve Search Capability

- Use new search technologies
- Make it easier to find content
- Provide easy access to other finding aids so that users don't have to juggle multiple publications

Link References

- Link internal references between sections of the CFR
- Link to external content such as:
 - FederalRegister.gov
 - United States Code on govinfo.gov
 - Public Laws on govinfo.gov
 - Other publications where possible

Versioning and Compare Features

- Make clear what amendments have occurred in the CFR
- Improve the ability to see CFR material at a specific point in time
- Create a compare feature to show changes between two points in time



My eCFR Account & Subscriptions

- “Subscribe” to a search result that is limited to your specific keywords and a portion of the eCFR then receive an email whenever a change to that search result is detected
- Ability to create an individual account (similar to My FR Account) to manage multiple search result subscriptions
- Can watch a specific area of the code to receive notification when amended

Beta Testing

- August 2020
- Announcements of Beta eCFR website placed on [FederalRegister.gov](https://www.federalregister.gov) and [ecfr.gov](https://www.ecfr.gov)
- Beta website will run parallel with current eCFR website for a number of months
- Review feedback from users and evaluate suggestions for improvement
- Make changes to the Beta website as needed
- Eventually Beta website will take the place and URL of [ecfr.gov](https://www.ecfr.gov)



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Demonstration of the Beta eCFR Website

ecfr.federalregister.gov



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Other Online Resources

OFR Online Resources

- The Office of the Federal Register produces a number of other publications which are free online
- The OFR provides other online resources such as information on the Electoral College



Federal Register Index

- Federal Register Index is a consolidation of the table of contents of documents published in the Federal Register
- It provides Federal Register page numbers
- Cumulative by year

www.federalregister.gov/index/2020

www.govinfo.gov

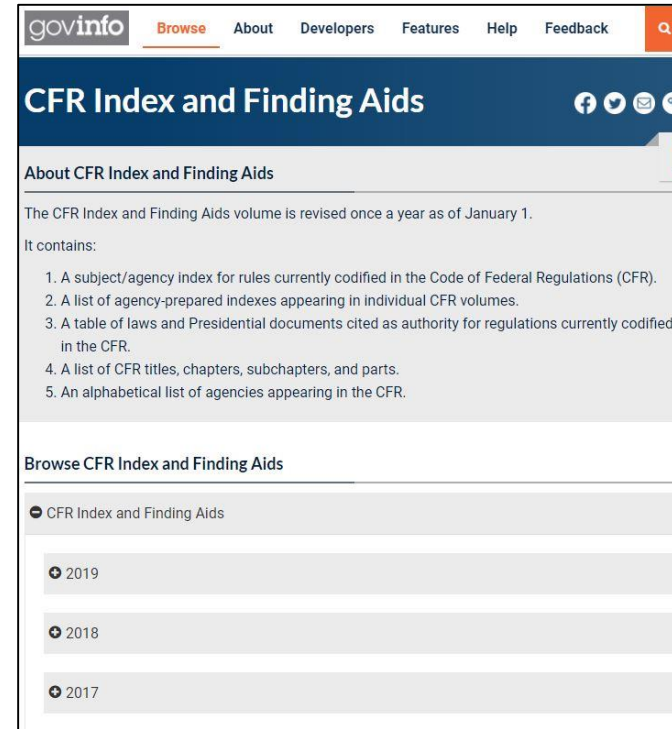


The screenshot shows the website interface for the Federal Register Index. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Sections, Browse, Search, Reader Aids, and My FR. A search bar is located on the right. Below the navigation bar, the National Archives logo and the text "FEDERAL REGISTER" are displayed, along with the tagline "Reader Aids :: Insight Into the FR Ecosystem". A circular seal of the National Archives and Records Administration is also visible. A purple banner highlights the "2020 Federal Register Index". Below this, the text reads "2020 Federal Register Index" with a dropdown menu for "View other years: 2020". The main content area provides a description of the index and its purpose, stating that it includes entries with select metadata for all documents published in the 2020 calendar year. It also mentions that each agency is followed by a count of documents published in that year. The text concludes by stating that the online index is current as of August 25, 2020. At the bottom of the screenshot, the govinfo logo and navigation links (Browse, About, Developers, Features, Help, Feedback) are shown, along with a search bar and social media icons. The "Federal Register Index" title is prominently displayed in a dark blue header, and a "HELP" button is visible in the top right corner of the content area.

CFR Index and Finding Aids

- A subject/agency index for rules currently codified in the CFR
- A list of agency-prepared indexes appearing in CFR volumes
- A table of laws and Presidential documents cited as authority for regulations codified in the CFR
- A list of CFR titles, chapters, subchapters, and parts
- An alphabetical list of agencies appearing in the CFR
- Available online back to 2017

www.govinfo.gov

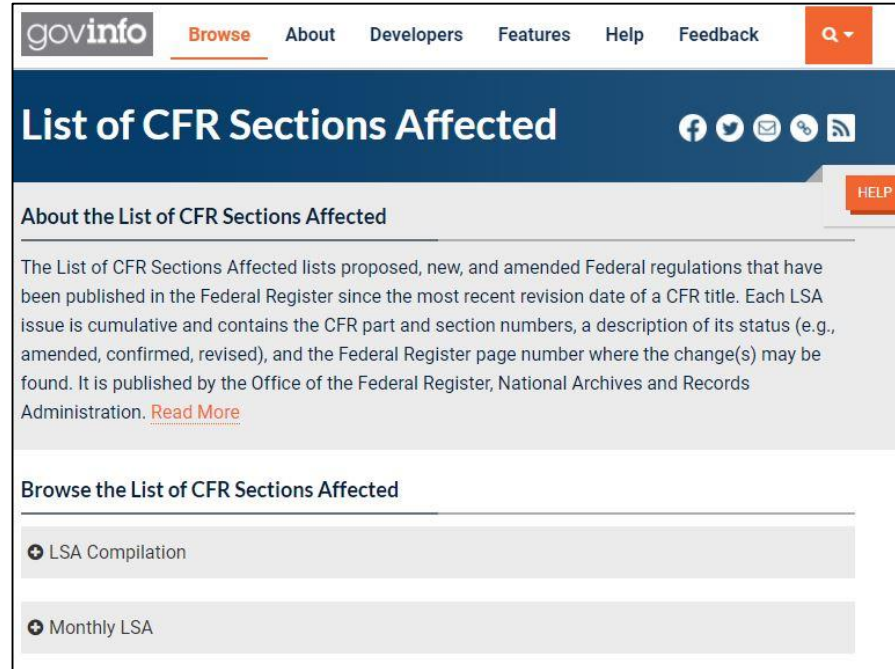


The screenshot shows the govinfo website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for "Browse", "About", "Developers", "Features", "Help", and "Feedback". The main heading is "CFR Index and Finding Aids". Below this, there is a section titled "About CFR Index and Finding Aids" which states: "The CFR Index and Finding Aids volume is revised once a year as of January 1. It contains:" followed by a numbered list of five items: 1. A subject/agency index for rules currently codified in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). 2. A list of agency-prepared indexes appearing in individual CFR volumes. 3. A table of laws and Presidential documents cited as authority for regulations currently codified in the CFR. 4. A list of CFR titles, chapters, subchapters, and parts. 5. An alphabetical list of agencies appearing in the CFR. Below the "About" section is a "Browse CFR Index and Finding Aids" section with a dropdown menu currently set to "CFR Index and Finding Aids". Underneath, there are three expandable sections for the years 2019, 2018, and 2017, each with a plus icon to its left.

List of CFR Sections Affected (LSA)

- Directs users to changes to the Code of Federal Regulations published in the Federal Register
- Published monthly in cumulative form
- Available online back to 1997

www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/lsa



The screenshot shows the govinfo website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the govinfo logo, a search icon, and links for Browse, About, Developers, Features, Help, and Feedback. The main heading is "List of CFR Sections Affected" with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Email, RSS, and Print. Below the heading is a "HELP" button. The content area starts with "About the List of CFR Sections Affected" followed by a paragraph explaining that the list contains proposed, new, and amended Federal regulations published in the Federal Register since the most recent revision date of a CFR title. It includes details about the cumulative nature of the list and its publication by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration, with a "Read More" link. Below this is a section titled "Browse the List of CFR Sections Affected" which contains two expandable menu items: "LSA Compilation" and "Monthly LSA".

United States Government Manual

- As the official handbook of the Federal Government which provides information on the agencies of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches

usgovernmentmanual.gov

www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/GOVMAN



Getting Started

To begin searching within the Government Manual simply type in a keyword or phrase to find your match.

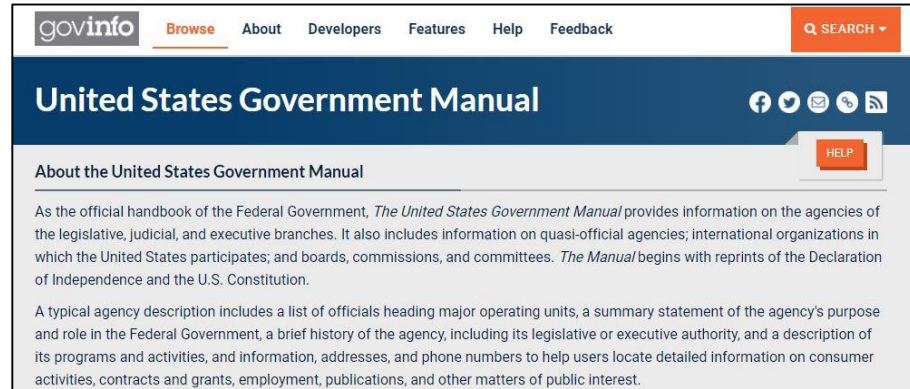
★ *The United States* ★
GOVERNMENT MANUAL

SEARCH

Resources

- [Declaration of Independence](#)
- [Constitution](#)
- [Organizational Chart of the U.S. Government](#)
- [History of Agency, Organizational Changes](#)
- [Boards, Commissions, and Committees](#)

The United States Government Manual



govinfo [Browse](#) [About](#) [Developers](#) [Features](#) [Help](#) [Feedback](#) SEARCH

United States Government Manual [f](#) [t](#) [e](#) [r](#) [n](#)

HELP

About the United States Government Manual

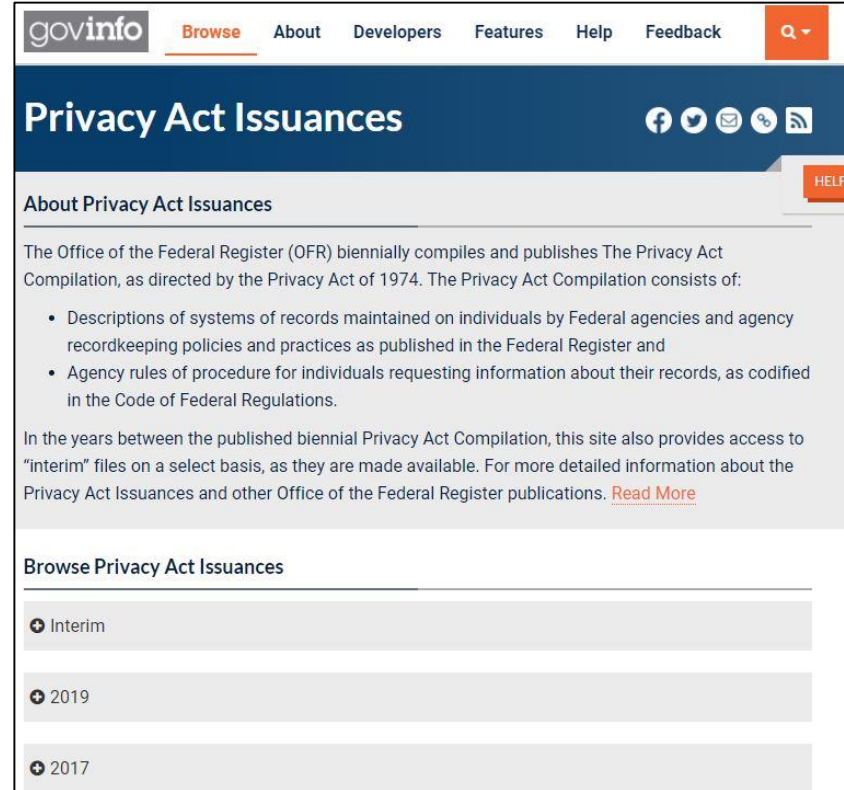
As the official handbook of the Federal Government, *The United States Government Manual* provides information on the agencies of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches. It also includes information on quasi-official agencies; international organizations in which the United States participates; and boards, commissions, and committees. *The Manual* begins with reprints of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

A typical agency description includes a list of officials heading major operating units, a summary statement of the agency's purpose and role in the Federal Government, a brief history of the agency, including its legislative or executive authority, and a description of its programs and activities, and information, addresses, and phone numbers to help users locate detailed information on consumer activities, contracts and grants, employment, publications, and other matters of public interest.

Privacy Act Compilation

- Privacy Act of 1974
- OFR publishes a compilation of the descriptions of systems of records maintained on individuals by Federal Agencies
- Published once every two years
- In between, the OFR provides access to “interim” files as they are made available

www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/PAI



The screenshot shows the govinfo website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the govinfo logo, a search icon, and links for Browse, About, Developers, Features, Help, and Feedback. The main heading is "Privacy Act Issuances" with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Email, RSS, and LinkedIn. Below the heading is a section titled "About Privacy Act Issuances" with a HELP button. The text explains that the Office of the Federal Register (OFR) biennially compiles and publishes the Privacy Act Compilation, as directed by the Privacy Act of 1974. It lists two types of records: descriptions of systems of records maintained on individuals by Federal agencies and agency recordkeeping policies, and agency rules of procedure for individuals requesting information about their records. Below this, it mentions that the site also provides access to "interim" files between published biennial compilations. At the bottom, there is a section titled "Browse Privacy Act Issuances" with a list of items: Interim, 2019, and 2017, each with a plus icon to its left.

Compilation of Presidential Documents

- Papers, speeches, and remarks given by the President
- Daily
January 20, 2009 to present
- Weekly
1965 to January 20, 2009
Back to 1992 available online

www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/CPD



govinfo [Browse](#) [About](#) [Developers](#) [Features](#) [Help](#) [Feedback](#)

Compilation of Presidential Documents

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Email](#) [RSS](#) [HELP](#)

About the Compilation of Presidential Documents

The Compilation of Presidential Documents collection consists of the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents and the Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents which are the official publications of materials released by the White House Press Secretary. The Compilation of Presidential Documents is published by the **Office of the Federal Register (OFR), National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)**.

Suggested Citation Form: Daily Comp. Pres. Docs., 2009 DCPD No. 00001, p.3. The citation is to material published in the Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents in the year 2009, in the first document, on page three.

In conjunction with the change of administration in 2009, OFR and GPO are pleased to provide more timely access to Presidential Documents by making materials available in electronic format on a daily basis. The Digest of White House Announcements, Nominations Submitted to the Senate, Checklist of White House Press Releases, and Acts Approved by the President will continue to be made available electronically on a weekly basis. [Read More](#)

Supplementary Material

- Acts Approved by the President
- Checklist of White House Press Releases
- Digest of Other White House Announcements
- Nominations Submitted to the Senate

Public Papers of the Presidents

- Papers, speeches, and remarks given by the President during a six-month period of the administration
- Photos and indices added
- Available back to Hoover administration (FDR not included)

www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/PPP



The screenshot shows the govinfo website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the govinfo logo, a search icon, and links for Browse, About, Developers, Features, Help, and Feedback. The main heading is "Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States" with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Email, RSS, and LinkedIn. Below the heading is a sub-heading "About the Public Papers of the Presidents" and a "HELP" button. The main text describes the project's origin in 1957, its purpose to make Presidential writings available, and the scope of the collection from 1929 to 1991, including a link to "Read More".

govinfo [Browse](#) [About](#) [Developers](#) [Features](#) [Help](#) [Feedback](#)

Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States

[f](#) [t](#) [e](#) [r](#) [s](#)

About the Public Papers of the Presidents

[HELP](#)

The Public Papers of the Presidents, which is compiled and published by the **Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)**, began in 1957 in response to a recommendation of the National Historical Publications Commission.

Noting the lack of uniform compilations of messages and papers of the Presidents before this time, the Commission recommended the establishment of an official series in which Presidential writings, addresses, and remarks of a public nature could be made available.

Volumes of the Public Papers of the Presidents from 1929 (Herbert Hoover) to 1991 (George H.W. Bush) published by NARA are made available as digital formats through GPO digitization efforts. Publications covering the John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, and George H.W. Bush presidencies are available in multi-book volumes. The Public Papers of the President were not published by the National Archives for the Franklin D. Roosevelt presidency; these volumes were published by a private printer before the commencement of the official Public Papers series and are not currently available in **govinfo**. [Read More](#)

Slip Laws

- Public and Private Laws
Available online back to 1995

www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/PLAW

- PENS
Public Law Electronic Notification Service

www.archives.gov/federal-register/laws/updates.html



govinfo Browse About Developers Features Help Feedback

Public and Private Laws

Public and Private Laws

About Public and Private Laws

Public and private laws are also known as slip laws. A slip law is an official publication of the law and is competent evidence admissible in all state and Federal courts and tribunals of the United States. Public laws affect society as a whole, while private laws affect an individual, family, or small group.

After the President signs a bill into law, it is delivered to the Office of the Federal Register (OFR), National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) where it is assigned a law number, legal statutory citation (public laws only), and prepared for publication as a slip law. Private laws receive their legal statutory citations when they are published in the United States Statutes at Large.

Prior to publication as a slip law, OFR also prepares marginal notes and citations for each law, and a legislative history for public laws only. Until the slip law is published, through the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO), the text of the law can be found by accessing the enrolled version of the bill.

[Read More](#)

Browse Public and Private Laws

- 116th Congress (2019 - 2020)
- 115th Congress (2017 - 2018)
- 114th Congress (2015 - 2016)

US Statutes at Large

- Permanent collection of all laws and resolutions enacted during each session of Congress
- Available online back to 1951

www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/STATUTE



govinfo [Browse](#) [About](#) [Developers](#) [Features](#) [Help](#) [Feedback](#)

United States Statutes at Large

[f](#) [t](#) [e](#) [s](#) [r](#)

About the United States Statutes at Large [HELP](#)

 The United States Statutes at Large, typically referred to as the Statutes at Large, is the permanent collection of all laws and resolutions enacted during each session of Congress. The Statutes at Large is prepared and published by the **Office of the Federal Register (OFR), National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)**.

Under the provisions of 1 U.S.C. 112, the printed edition of the Statutes at Large is legal evidence of the laws, concurrent resolutions, proclamations by the President, and proposed and ratified amendments to the Constitution. [Read More](#)

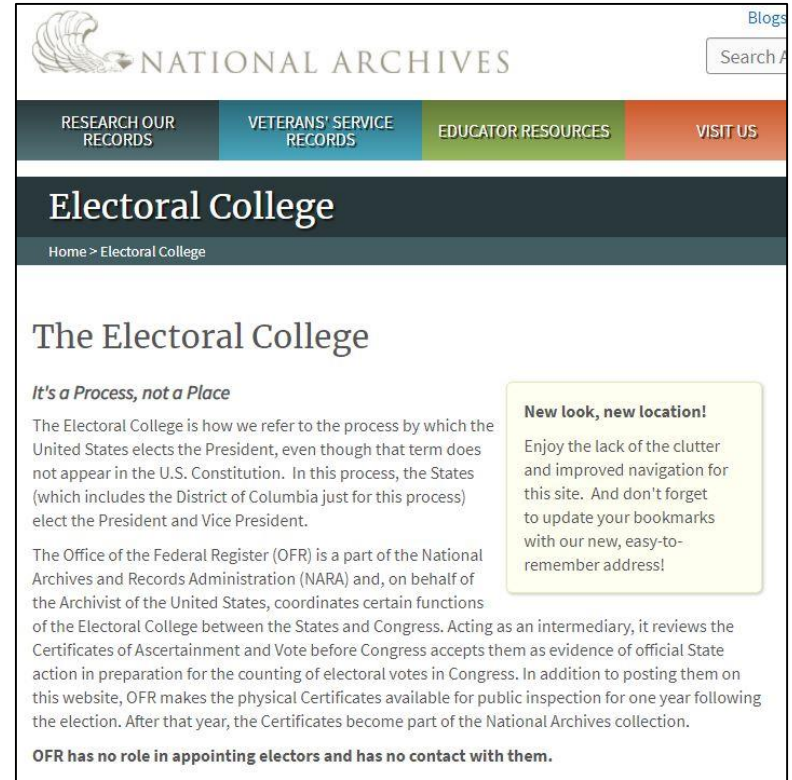
Note that appendix volumes are presented with the corresponding main volume: [68A](#), [70A](#), [76A](#), [77A](#)

[Browse the United States Statutes at Large](#)

Electoral College Website

- On behalf of the Archivist of the United States, the OFR coordinates certain functions of the Electoral College between the States and Congress

www.archives.gov/electoral-college



The screenshot shows the National Archives website interface. At the top left is the National Archives logo. To its right is the text "NATIONAL ARCHIVES". In the top right corner, there are links for "Blogs" and a search box labeled "Search". Below the header is a navigation bar with four colored buttons: "RESEARCH OUR RECORDS" (dark blue), "VETERANS' SERVICE RECORDS" (teal), "EDUCATOR RESOURCES" (green), and "VISIT US" (orange). The main content area has a dark blue header with the text "Electoral College" in white. Below this is a breadcrumb trail: "Home > Electoral College". The main heading is "The Electoral College". Underneath is the sub-heading "It's a Process, not a Place". The text describes the Electoral College process. To the right of the text is a yellow callout box with the heading "New look, new location!" and text about the website's redesign. At the bottom of the page, there is a bold statement: "OFR has no role in appointing electors and has no contact with them."



Office of the
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Questions