



Administrative Law: Federal

The administrative (or executive) branch of government implements legislation enacted by the United States Congress. Congress authorizes creation of federal agencies to oversee and implement laws. Regulations are rules or orders issued by these agencies in accordance with their area of legal responsibility. Use the sources listed below to find and track regulations. Be aware that administrative law and procedure are governed separately from courts in the judicial system. However, the federal judiciary may accept appeals from decisions of hearing officers or administrative judges under certain rules providing oversight as contemplated by the legislative, judicial, and administrative (or executive) branches of government.

FEDERAL REGULATIONS:

Federal Register (Fed. Reg.) Washington, DC.: Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Service, General Services Administration, 1936 to date. **Level 3 KF 70.A2 (Two years plus current) and FICHE Level 2 Microform KF 70 .A2 (1936 to July 2007 – subscription cancelled).** See also:

[GPO Access – The Federal Register](#): 1994 to date.

[Hein Online](#) > [The Federal Register Library](#) > [The Federal Register](#): 1936 to date.

[Hein Online](#) > [The Federal Register Library](#) > [The Federal Register Indexes](#): 1936 to date.

Since 1936, proposed and final rules/regulations, agency notices, and presidential documents have been published Monday through Friday in the Fed. Reg. Here is an example of a partial Fed. Reg. citation:

68 Fed. Reg. 7308 (2006).
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 (Volume) (Page)

Locating Federal Regulations in the Fed. Reg.:

1. If you have a recent (Fed.Reg.) citation:

- Check the shelves on **Level 3 KF 70 .A2**, or see
 - [GPO Access – The Federal Register](#): 1994 to date.
 - [Hein Online](#) > [The Federal Register Library](#) > [The Federal Register](#): 1936 to date.
 - [Hein Online](#) > [The Federal Register Library](#) > [The Federal Register Indexes](#): 1936 to date.

2. If you have an older Fed. Reg. citation:

- See the microfiche version on **Level 2 Microforms** or
 - Click [Hein Online](#) > The Federal Register Library > The Federal Register: 1936 to date.
3. If you do not have a Fed. Reg. citation and do not have a specific time frame:
- Check agency listings in the last issue of the cumulative Fed. Reg. Index on the shelf on **Level 3 KF 70 .A2** or
 - Click [Hein Online](#) > The Federal Register Library > The Federal Register Indexes: 1936 to date and click Search.
4. If you do not have a Fed. Reg. citation and do have a specific time frame:
- Check the last issue of the cumulative Fed. Reg. Index on the shelves on **Level 3 KF 70 .A2** or
 - Click [Hein Online](#) > The Federal Register Library > The Federal Register Indexes: 1936 to date and click Search.
 - Check agency listings in the table of contents for each Fed. Reg. issue not included in the cumulative Fed. Reg. Index (**Level 3 KF 70 .A2**) or
 - Click [Hein Online](#) > The Federal Register Library > The Federal Register Indexes: 1936 to date and click Search.

Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.). Washington, D.C.: Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Service, General Services Administration. **Level 3 KF70 .A3 (1936 to date)** and **FICHE Level 2 Microform KF70 .A3 (1938 to 2007 – subscription cancelled)**. See also:

- [GPO Access - Code of Federal Regulations](#): 1997 to date.
- [Hein Online](#) > Code of Federal Regulations: 1936 to date.

Final regulations are codified in the C.F.R.. The C.F.R. has been updated annually since 1937 and, like the federal statutes, is divided into 50 titles. Here is an example of a C.F.R. citation:

12 C.F.R. § 303.14 (2006)

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(Title) (Part) (Section)

Locating Federal Regulations in C.F.R.:

1. If you have a C.F.R. citation:
 - Check the most recent volume on the shelf (**Level 3 KF 70 .A3**) or
 - [GPO Access - Code of Federal Regulations](#): 1997 to date.
 - [Hein Online](#) > Code of Federal Regulations: 1936 to date.
2. If you have a related federal statute citation, look for a corresponding C.F.R. citation:
 - Check United States Code Annotated (U.S.C.A.) (Level 3 KF 62.5 .W45); it may feature the corresponding C.F.R. citation after the code text; OR
 - Check CFR Index and Finding Aids (Level 3 KF .A34 I54) under “Parallel Table of Authorities and Rules” OR

- [Hein Online](#) > Code of Federal Regulations: 1936 to date. Under “Browse by,” click Index and Finding Aids.
3. If you do not have a related federal statute citation:
- Find an entry for the agency you are researching under “Alphabetical List of Agencies Appearing in the C.F.R.” in the CFR Index and Finding Aids (Level 3 KF .A34 I54) table of contents OR
 - Check [Hein Online](#) > Code of Federal Regulations: 1936 to date, Under “Browse by,” click Index and Finding Aids.

Check all alphabetical subcategories under this agency for a C.F.R. citation.

Updating Federal Regulations:

LSA is a monthly cumulative pamphlet of C.F.R. changes published in the Fed. Reg. LSA entries are arranged by C.F.R. citation and each change will cite to a specific Fed. Reg. page. Follow these steps to find updates:

- See Code of Federal Regulations: LSA, List of Sections Affected. Washington, D.C.: National Archives of the United States (**Level 3 KF 70.A34 L55**) OR
 - [GPO Access – List of CFR Sections Affected](#): 1986 to-date.
 - [Hein Online](#) > Federal Register Library > Compilation of Sections Affected: 1949 to date.
1. Look at the cover of your C.F.R. volume and determine its revision date.
 2. Consult the latest cumulative LSA pamphlet issued after your C.F.R. volume revision date:
 - Look for activity on your C.F.R. citation under the “Changes . . .” heading for the specific time frame listed. Also check under “Proposed Rules.” LSA will cite to specific Fed. Reg. page(s).
 - Find Fed.Reg. issue dates for page(s) by scanning the “Table of Federal Register Issue Pages and Dates” chart after Title 50 listings.
 3. Now check for any Fed. Reg. changes that may have occurred after the date range listed in the LSA.
 - Go to the shelf and pull the last Fed. Reg. issue for each month after the last date listed in LSA’s “Changes . . .” heading.
 - Find the “Reader Aids” page in the back of each Fed. Reg. you use and check the “CFR Parts Affected During (the month)” and “Proposed Rules” charts for updates on your C.F.R. citation.
 - Determine Fed.Reg. issue dates for the page(s) you found by scanning the “Federal Register Pages and Date” chart on the “Reader Aids” page.
 - Go to the shelf and check each Fed. Reg. change.

Selected Federal Administrative Law Resources:

- Federal Regulatory Directory. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly Inc., current edition. **Level 3 Reference Desk KF 5406 .A15 F4**.
- [GPOAccess Home Page](#). Under “Executive Resources,” click View All.
- [LexisNexis](#) (fee-based): Enter ID, password, and click Enter Research System > Click Federal Legal – U.S. or Executive Branch Materials.
- Shepard’s United States Administrative Citations. 5th ed. Colorado Springs, CO: Shepard’s, current. **Level 3 KF153.2 .S5** or
 - Use Shepard’s Citations online at terminals near Level 3 Reference Desk. Features include federal/state court decisions, law review articles, and annotations citing to the C.F.R. Be aware that the Federal Register is not included in this database.
- [Uncle Sam – Who’s Who in the Federal Government](#): The University of Memphis, University Libraries. Government Publications Department. Regional Depository Library.
- The United States Government Internet Manual. Garvin, Peggy, Ed. Lanham, MD: Bernan Press, annual. **Level 3 Reference Desk ZA 5075.G68**. Compilation of government web sites, including administrative and regulatory law.
- The United States Government Manual. Washington, D.C.: National Archive and Records Administration, current edition. **Level 3 Reference Desk JK 421.A31** or online at [GPO Access - U. S. Government Manual](#).
- [USA.gov](#): Official information and services from the U.S. government.
- [Westlaw](#) (fee-based). Enter password and click GO. Click Research now on Westlaw > Directory > U.S. Federal Materials > Administrative Rules & Regulations or Other Administrative & Executive Materials.

[Westminster Law Library](#) > [Web Research Links](#) > [Federal Resources](#) > [Federal Administrative Materials](#).