

ADMINISTRATIVE/REGULATIONS RESEARCH

The work of creating specific rules and regulations that enforce statutes is left to the appropriate federal agencies. The agencies interpret and apply their governing statutes to create detailed regulations, which give specific content to statutory intent and provide procedures for implementation and enforcement.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION | THE BOOKS | WESTLAW | LEXIS | VLS
SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES | THE INTERNET - CFR AND FEDERAL REGISTER | THE INTERNET
- AGENCY AND SPECIALIZED SITES**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION / GETTING STARTED

The National Archives and Records Administration

<http://www.archives.gov>

A variety of useful links.

Federal Register (and CFR) Online Tutorial

<http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/tutorial/>

The Unified Agenda

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/ua/>

Summarizes the rules and proposed rules that each federal agency expects to issue during the next six months.

The United States Government Manual in paper - (Ref JK/421/A3)

and <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/gmanual/index.html>

Contains comprehensive information on the agencies of the federal legislative, judicial and executive branches.

CeRI: Cornell e-Rulemaking Initiative

<http://ceri.law.cornell.edu/>

A collaborative effort of Cornell Law School's Legal Information Institute and various partners, including the Environmental Protection Agency, to improve access to rule-making information.

Many books in the Library dealing with Administrative Law.

THE BOOKS

Code of Federal Regulations

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) is the codification of the general and permanent rules of the Executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government originally published in the Federal Register.

Composed of 50 titles representing broad subject areas.

1972-1979 - in paper in storage area behind fireplace in the Community Center.

1980 to date - microfiche - Library Parking Lot Level.

Current volumes - in paper - Campus Level- on back side of first bookshelf of stacks area.

The **authority citation** to the enabling legislation in the U.S.Code is listed in the CFR following the table of contents for each part.

The **source citation** which specifies where in the Federal Register the codified document was first officially published and is printed in its entirety is also given in the CFR, normally following the authority citation.

Updated/revised annually, incorporating the regulations promulgated during the preceding 12 months and deleting those revoked.

The CFR also includes executive orders and proclamations in Title 3 of the CFR.

CFR Index

Arranged by subjects and by agency names - covers regulations which are currently in the CFR. Provides citations to parts rather than sections, so not always as specific as you'd like. The table of contents included at the beginning of each Part or the agency-prepared indexes in the individual CFR volumes are useful.

Includes a **parallel table of authorities and rules** - useful tables which refer you to a CFR cite from a U.S.Code, Statutes at Large, or Public Law cite.

USCA ,and USCS (especially) provide references to the CFR from enabling statutes.

To Update the CFR:

Check The List of Sections Affected (LSA) which covers all affected rules published in the Federal Register since the last revision of the CFR.

Check the following Federal Registers issued *since* the latest LSA:

- last day of each month - in the CFR Sections Affected section at the end of each Federal Register

AND

- last day available for the current month - again, in the CFR Sections Affected section at the end of each Federal Register

Read the updates in the daily Federal Register.

The Federal Register

1936 to date - on microfiche on the Parking Lot Level of the Library.

The most recent issues are in paper on the Campus Level.

Each daily issue contains the text of Rules and Regulations, Proposed Rules, Notices (documents not concerned with rule-making proceedings, such as announcements of application deadlines or license revocations), Notices of Sunshine Act Meetings (public announcements of agency meetings), and Presidential documents (proclamations, executive orders, and other executive

documents), and a CFR Parts Affected Section for the current month. Contact people (agency employees) and phone numbers are often listed. An Annual Index (which you don't need if you are using the Federal Register to update a specific CFR cite) is arranged by agency name, document-type (rules, proposed rules, etc.), and then by subject.

Agency Decisions

The library has some, but not all agency decisions. Search by individual agency on Julien.

State Regulations:

State regulations are published under a number of different titles such as Code of Vermont Rules.

[WESTLAW](#)

The CFR database

Incorporates recent changes that appear in the Federal Register within days.

Prior versions of the CFR are available back to 1984.

Click on TOC in the left frame to see your regulation in context and to quickly link to related regulations.

Source information: In the Regulations Plus area on the left - Administrative > FR References.

Authority information: In the Regulations Plus area on the left - Statutes > Authority.

Topical Practice Areas > Environmental Law > Federal Administrative Materials

-OR-

Code of Federal Regulations Organized by Area of Practice > Environmental Law (for related databases)

Federal Regulation Tracking

Summaries and status information concerning pending and recently-adopted federal regulations.

The Federal Register database

Back to 1980. **Updated daily.** A document is a rule or regulation, a proposed rule, an item appearing in the Unified Agenda or a notice.

Use to find recent regulations that update your CFR citation. Update example: "40 cfr" & 60.33b.

Other Administrative and Executive Materials

Agency Decisions

Westlaw Directory > U.S. Federal Materials > Federal Administrative Decisions

They are also listed in the Regulations Plus area for specific regulations.

KeyCite

Provides links to court opinions, law review articles, etc. that have cited your regulation.

State Regulations

Some, but not all state regulations are available on WESTLAW.

[LEXIS](#)

CFR database

Incorporates recent changes that appear in the Federal Register within days.

Click on TOC to see your regulation in context and to quickly link to related regulations.

Prior versions of the CFR are available back to 1981.

For Authority and Source information: Use GET A DOCUMENT to locate the beginning of your Part. Example: GET A DOCUMENT 40 cfr 60

Research System > Legal > Area of Law - By Topic > Environment >Administrative Materials & Regulations > Federal (for related databases)

Federal Register

Back to 1980. Updated daily. A document is a rule or regulation, a proposed rule, an item appearing in the Unified Agenda or a notice.

Use to find recent regulations that update your CFR citation. Example: 40 and 60.33b

Agency Decisions

Federal Legal - U.S. > Federal Agency Decisions Combined.

Shepard's

Links to court opinions, law review articles, etc. that have cited your regulation.

State Regulations

Some, but not all, state regulations are available on LEXIS.

VLS SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES

[Hein Online](#)

Contains older versions of the CFR, 1938 - 1983, and the Federal Register from its first issue in 1936 through 2006.

[ELI Environmental Law Reporter](#)

The Environmental Law Institute pulls together many documents, including administrative, dealing with the environment.

[Inside EPA](#)

Daily news with archive, often with links to primary sources.

[GreenWire/E & E Daily](#)

News archive of environment and energy stories, often with links to primary sources.

THE INTERNET (free sites) - CFR and Federal Register

E- CFR

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/ecfr>

The data found on e-CFR is as up-to-date as you'll find anywhere.

CFR Through GPO Access

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html>

As up to date as the book versions (i.e., not very!) Always note date of currency.

Update your CFR cite, using: List of Sections Affected

Prior versions of the CFR are available back to 1997.

Federal Register Through GPO Access

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html/>

Goes back to 1995. Updated daily.

You must use this to find the text of any updates to regulations you find in the CFR. **To update CFR citations directly in the Federal Register:** Update example: "16 cfr" AND "309"

Federal Register 2.0

<http://www.federalregister.gov/>

The Federal Register 2.0 web is similar to a daily newspaper, with a clear layout and tools to guide readers. The site displays individual news sections for Environment, World, Science & Technology, Health & Public Welfare, etc.

U.S. Regulation Tracker

<http://regulations.justia.com>

Allows you to search the Federal Register, and track the results you find. You can search by specific agency or across all of them, and receive PDF versions of the regulations. You can also subscribe to an RSS feed for any search you create, to keep track of new regulations.

Cornell Legal Information Institute's Code of Federal Regulations

<http://www4.law.cornell.edu/cfr/>

Search engine designed by Cornell's Legal Information Institute for easier access to the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Links to the official version of the CFR. Pay attention to currency. Update your CFR cite in the Federal Register.

State regulations:

Some state web sites have regulations available. Sources that link to state sites:

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/> <http://www.findlaw.com/#>

The INTERNET (free sites) - Agency and other Specialized Sites

AGENCY WEB SITES !

U.S. Federal Government Agencies Directory

<http://www.lib.lsu.edu/gov/fedgov.html>

Links to agency web sites. Developed by the Libraries of Louisiana State University in association with the Government Printing Office.

Federal Administrative Decisions & Other Actions

http://lib.virginia.edu/govdocs/fed_decisions_agency.html

One of the most extensive listings of administrative decisions on the web.

REGULATIONS.GOV

<http://www.regulations.gov/>

“The public face of the government’s [eRulemaking Initiative](#), facilitates participation in the federal regulatory process by improving the ability to find, view, and comment on federal regulatory actions.”

The Regulatory Group, Inc.

<http://www.reg-group.com/>

Includes an impressive collection of research links and a glossary of regulatory terms.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/>

Links to regulations codified in Title 40: Protection of Environment. Proposed regulations, Federal Register, dockets, future regulatory agenda.

The EPA Office of Administrative Law Judges

<http://www.epa.gov/oalj/>

Includes ALJ Decisions and Orders and links to EPA Environmental Appeals Board Decisions.

The EPA Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation

<http://www.epa.gov/opei/>

The primary policy arm of EPA, working “with all other parts of EPA and the federal government to provide critical analytic and management support across three broad areas, including regulatory management.

Christine Ryan
Environmental Law Librarian
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