

How to Search for Government Documents in Meriam Library

U.S. Documents

Meriam Library Catalog:

Search the Meriam Library Catalog for U.S. documents. U.S. documents are classified using the Superintendent of Documents classification system (SuDoc). Write down the SuDoc call number, then look for the document:

- 4th floor for print documents
- 2nd floor Microform area for microfiche and microfilm
- 1st floor Limited Loan for CD-ROMs, DVD-ROMs, and diskettes

If the document is online, click the web link (URL/PURL) in the catalog record to view the full text on the Internet.

Note: The Meriam Library Catalog does not contain all of the U.S. documents held in Meriam Library. In 1990 we began online cataloging of new U.S. documents received. Pre 1990 documents were cataloged when they circulated. If your title is published before 1990, check Meriam Library catalog first, then consult sources below for the SuDoc number.

Melvyl:

Melvyl is the U.C. Library Catalog and contains many U.S. documents (either at the California State Library or U.C. campuses). We do not own all of the U.S. documents in Melvyl. If you find an item in Melvyl, check the Meriam Library Document Collection under the SuDoc number for availability. If the Melvyl record has a web link (URL/PURL), click on it and go directly to the full text on the Internet.

Pharos:

Pharos is the CSU Library Catalog. One can search by keyword, title, journal title, subject and SuDoc number for U.S. documents. We do not own all the U.S. documents in Pharos. If you find an item in Pharos, check the Meriam Library Document Collections under the SuDoc number for availability. Pharos contains many records with internet access. An "Interlibrary Loan Request" button allows users to quickly order materials from other libraries.

Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP) (formerly the Monthly Catalog):

The Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP) [1976 – current (with daily updates)*] is the finding tool for electronic and print publications from the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the U.S. government. These publications make up the National Bibliography of U.S. Government Publications. The CGP contains descriptive records for historical and current publications and provides direct links to those that are available online. Meriam Library has paper copies of the Monthly Catalog in the documents collection (doc GP 3.8:1895-1992). We do not own all of the U.S. documents in the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications. If you find an item in the Catalog, check the Meriam Library Document Collection using the SuDoc number for availability.

*CGP will grow to include records for publications dating back to the late 1800s.

Card Catalog:

Search for documents issued before 1990 in the Card Catalog on the 2nd floor behind the elevators.

California Documents

Meriam Library Catalog:

Search the Meriam Library Catalog for California documents. California documents use the California State Library classification system for their call numbers. Write down the call number and go to the 4th floor collection. If the document is full text on the Internet, click the Web Link (URL/PURL) in the catalog record.

Note: The Meriam Library Catalog does not contain all California documents held in Meriam Library. In 1997 we began online cataloging California documents when they were received. California documents published before 1997 were cataloged when they circulated.

Melvyl:

Melvyl is the U.C. Library Catalog and includes the California State Library (CSL) holdings. Meriam Library California documents uses the same classification number as the CSL. We do not own all of the California documents cataloged in Melvyl/CSL. If you find an item in Melvyl you can check the Meriam Library collection using the California State Library call number. If the Melvyl record has a web link (URL/PURL), click on it and go directly to the full text on the Internet

California State Library Catalog:

Check the California State Library Catalog for California documents. Meriam Library uses the same classification number as the State Library. We do not own all of the California documents listed in the California State Library Catalog. Use it to find the call number before looking on the 4th floor.

Card Catalog:

The California documents card catalog is located behind the elevators on the 2nd floor. We stopped filing cards in 1997. This is an excellent place to look for older California documents not listed in the Meriam Library Catalog.

Online

Government Resources Home Page:

Select -> Meriam Library - Government Documents -
<http://www.csuchico.edu/library/gov/govindex.html>.

This tool will help you access full text government information using various subject links and pathways by government level.

Government Information on the Web:

These are recommended Internet search engines & databases for government documents:

Google "Advanced Search" - in domain box type .gov [http://www.google.com]
Google Uncle Sam (searches .gov and .mil) [http://www.google.com/unclesam]
First Gov [http://firstgov.gov]
GPO Access [http://www.gpoaccess.gov/]