Do you have a specific topic?

- **Yes, a state policy area** (like marriage or gambling)
- **Yes, a federal policy area** (like telecommunications or pharmaceuticals)

*If your topic, like habitat protection, bridges state and federal policy, follow one branch and then the other.*

- **No, I need to find a topic.**
Finding a Topic

Browse some of these sources for a topic that interests you and meets your class requirements.

- Council of State Governments: Policy & Research
- Governing
- State Legislatures
- Oregon Policy Directory

- Congressional Quarterly Researcher (UO only)
- National Journal (UO only)
- American Policy Directory

- Found a topic?
Are you focusing on Oregon?

- Yes, Oregon
- No, other US state(s)
Oregon Checklist

✓ Law, legislation, and ballot measures

✓ State agencies and regulations

✓ Case law

✓ Statistics & datasets

✓ Interest groups and media

Back to the beginning
Oregon Laws, Bills, and Legislation

- Current Oregon Laws: Oregon Revised Statutes
  - Browse online at the Oregon Legislature
  - Search in LexisNexis Academic (UO only) (Video demo)
    - Legal tab → Federal & State Codes → Drop-down menu: Oregon
  - In print, 1989-present: DOC-OR L/L52/4.6R32
- Oregon Session Laws (by date), 1999-present
- Oregon Bills (text and history), 1995-present

Next: Legislative History in depth
Back to the Oregon checklist
Oregon Legislative History In Depth

- Process Overview and Step-by-Step Guide
- Detailed Measure Histories
  - Choose session → Joint Final Status Report
- Legislative Committee Minutes (audio and text), 1991-present

Next: Oregon Initiatives & Referenda
Back to the Oregon checklist

Document Center, UO Libraries
Oregon Initiatives and Referenda

- 1995-present, online at the Oregon Secretary of State
  - Text of ballot measures, Voters’ Guides with arguments in favor and opposed, and official results
- 1902-present: List of all ballot measures and official results
- 1904-present: Voter’s Guide pamphlets
  - In print DOC-OR S.8V94
- 2002-present: League of Women Voters Guides

These resources are organized by year. To find any years your topic was on the ballot, search the Oregon Blue Book.

Next: Oregon Agencies & Regulations  
Back to the Oregon checklist
Oregon Agencies and Regulations

- Agencies: [Oregon.gov alphabetical list]
- *Oregon Blue Book: Agencies* by topic or alphabetically
- Historical Agency Records from the State Archives

Agency Regulations: Oregon Administrative Rules

- **Browse Oregon Administrative Rules**
- Search in [Westlaw](#) (UO only)
  - Scroll down to Statutes and Regulations → Check State Administrative Codes → Choose Oregon in drop-down menu
- In print, 1997-present: [DOCS-OR S.6Ad6/2](#)

Next: Oregon Case Law

Back to the Oregon checklist
Oregon Case Law

- Search Oregon cases in LexisNexis Academic (UO only)
  - Legal tab → Federal & State Cases → Drop-down menu: Oregon
  - Video demonstration (2 minutes)
- Annotations to the Oregon Revised Statutes
  - Scroll down to browse case law by statute volume and chapter
- Supreme Court opinions: Case law by date and case name
  - Online, 1998-present Oregon Reports
  - In print, 1862-present DOC-OR Ju/Su7.3R29

Next: Oregon Statistics and Data

Back to the Oregon checklist
Oregon Statistics and Datasets

- Annual Oregon Population Report
- Oregon Business Development Commission
- Oregon Office of Economic Analysis
- Oregon Labor Market Information System
- Center for Health Statistics
- Oregon Agricultural Statistics
- Oregon Progress Board
- Data for Local Communities

Next: Oregon interest groups and media  
Back to the Oregon checklist
Oregon Interest Groups and Media

- **Oregon Policy Directory**
  - Searchable, topical listing of Oregon interest groups

- **Oregon State Legislature**
  - Live streaming video requires Windows Media Player
  - Archived audio requires Real Media Player

- **Oregon Newspapers**

- **Oregon Public Broadcasting**
  - Streaming audio, video, and text of local & national NPR & PBS
Other States

- **The Book of the States** *Knight Reference JK 2403.B6*

- **Laws, bills, and regulations for all fifty states**
  - Search in *Westlaw* (UO only)
    - Scroll down to Statutes and Regulations → Check State boxes → Choose state in drop-down menus

- **State case law**
  - State courts, listed at the commercial site *FindLaw*
  - *LexisNexis Academic* (UO only) (Legal tab → Federal & State Cases → Drop-down menu: state) *(Video demo)*

- **Datasets and statistics**
  - Data collected by state agencies
  - State Statistical Abstracts
  - More sources

- **News coverage**
  - News Voyager
  - *Alternative Press Index* (UO only)

- *Contact a Documents librarian* for more help with state policy.

**Back to the beginning**
Federal Checklist

✓ Law
✓ Legislative history

✓ Federal agencies
✓ Regulations & Implementation

✓ Case law

✓ Statistics & datasets

✓ Interest groups & public opinion
✓ Media

Back to the beginning
Federal Law

- **United States Code** (sorted by category)
  - Search in [LexisNexis Congressional](https://www.lexisnexis.com/congressional) (UO only) ([Video demo](https://www.lexisnexis.com/congressional/video-demos))
  - Browse in [Hein Online](https://www.heinonline.org), 1925-present (UO only)
  - Browse at [Cornell’s Legal Information Institute](https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode)
  - In print, current edition: **DOCS REF KF62 2006**
  - In print, older editions: **DOC-LC KF62**

- **Public Laws** (numbered sequentially as passed)
  - In [LexisNexis Congressional](https://www.lexisnexis.com/congressional) (UO only) ([Video demo](https://www.lexisnexis.com/congressional/video-demos))
  - From the [Government Printing Office](https://www.gpo.gov), 1995-present
Federal Legislative History

- Legislative history: how a bill was passed into law
- Bill tracking: history of a failed bill or bill in progress
  - Bills and Amendments
  - Congressional Hearings (testimony from experts and constituents)
  - Committee Prints (investigative and historical reports, etc.)
  - Congressional Reports (reports on bills from committees)
  - Congressional Record (debate on the House and Senate floor)
  - Final Text and Votes

- Find legislative histories
  - LexisNexis Congressional (UO only) (Video demo, 5 minutes)
  - Thomas

- Current bills & issues: CQ Weekly (UO only)
Reports to Congress

- Congressional Research Service
  - Non-partisan reports on background context for legislators
  - [LexisNexis Congressional](#) → Advanced Search → Check CRS Reports (UO only) ([Video demo](#), 5 minutes)

- Government Accountability Office
  - Non-partisan reports on programs with recommendations

- Congressional Budget Office
  - Estimates of economic impacts of proposed and ongoing programs

Next: Federal Agencies
Federal Agencies

- Find relevant agencies
  - USA.gov (by topic or alphabetically)
  - US Government Manual (detailed agency histories)

- Documents by federal agencies
  - 1996-present: Mostly online, linked from the Catalog of US Government Publications. If no link is listed, search in the UO Local catalog. Specify Location: Documents.
  - 1975-1995: Start with the Catalog of US Government Publications. Use the SuDoc call number to check for a print copy in Knight Library, or search for the document in UO WorldCat.

- Older print documents are also available. For historic research, contact a Documents Librarian.

Next: Federal Regulations
Back to the federal checklist
Federal Regulations & Implementation

- Code of Federal Regulations
  - Search in LexisNexis Congressional, 1981-present (UO only)
  - Browse at Cornell’s Legal Information Institute
  - In print, current year: DOCS REF US Legal Range 4
  - In print, 1938-last year: DOC-US Compact Shelving

- Federal Regulatory Directory DOCS REF JK 901.F4

- Budget of the United States Government

- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, 1965-present

Next: Federal Case Law  Back to the federal checklist
Federal Case Law

- **Lexis-Nexis Academic (UO only)** All federal court levels

- **Supreme Court**
  - *Annotated Constitution of the United States of America*
    - Case law organized by sections of the Constitution
    - In print: DOCS REF KF4527.U54 2004
  - 1990-present: [Decisions at the Legal Information Institute](#)
  - [Oyez](#) Opinions, summaries, and audio of oral arguments

- **District Courts**
  - 1996-present: [Circuit Court cases and opinions](#), FindLaw

Next: National Data and Statistics  
Back to the federal checklist
National Datasets and Statistics

- Fedstats.gov
  - Browse topical information statistics (mostly .pdf)

- Statistical Abstract of the United States

- Data.gov
  - Search for datasets for analysis (mostly .csv format)

- More sources for statistics and datasets

Next: National Interest Groups  Back to the federal checklist
National Interest Groups and Opinion

- **American Policy Directory**
  - Searchable, topical listing of national interest groups

- **Testimony to Congress by Interest Groups**
  - [LexisNexis Congressional](https://www.lexisnexis.com/counselor/) → Advanced Search → In Witness Affiliation
  - Video demonstration, 5 minutes

- **Public opinion resources**

Next: Media by the Federal Branches
Media by Federal Branches

- **White House Video**
  - Video, audio, and photographs of speeches and press briefings
- **House Live**
  - House of Representatives video, audio, and text summaries
- **US Government official YouTube channel**
  - Hundreds of videos sorted by topic
- **USA.gov podcasts**
  - Audio recordings of consumer information, public hearings, etc.
- **Oyez**
  - Audio and text of selected Supreme Court oral arguments
- **USA.gov on Flickr**
  - Official government photograph stream

Next: Media on the Policy Process  Back to the federal checklist
Media Coverage of the Policy Process

- Vanderbilt Television News Archive (UO only)
  - 1968-present
- C-SPAN Video Library
  - Congressional, Presidential, and Supreme Court coverage
- Lexis-Nexis Academic (UO only)
  - US and world newspapers; television and radio transcripts
- Associated Press Images (UO only)
  - Audio and photographs