## **USF Tampa Library**

## **Federal Depository Library Access**

The Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) was established by Congress to ensure that the American public has access to its Government's information. For more than 130 years, depository libraries have safeguarded the public's right to know by collecting, organizing, maintaining, preserving, and assisting users with information from the Federal Government. The Government Printing Office provides government information at no cost to designated depository libraries throughout the country. These depository libraries, in turn, provide local, no-fee access to government information in all formats in an impartial environment with professional assistance.

The USF Tampa Library selects, acquires, and organizes approximately 75 percent of the government publications that are distributed by the United States Government Printing Office through the Federal Depository Library Program. This information is disseminated free of charge and is available for public use in the library during regular <u>library hours</u>. Government information is distributed in the form of books, pamphlets, magazines, report monographs, CDs/DVDs, online electronic resources, or microforms. USF faculty, staff and students can check out materials with a valid USF ID card. Members of the community may check out materials if they purchase a <u>Special Borrower's Card</u>.

The Federal Depository Collection is located in the basement of the USF Tampa Library. Reference service for the Government Documents Collection is provided by the Reference Librarians, during regular library hours, at the Reference Desk, located on the first floor of the USF Tampa Library. Research questions can be submitted by email to the USF Libraries <u>Ask-A-Librarian</u> service or can be sent directly to the <u>Government Documents Librarian</u>.

Holdings for the Documents collection, from 1976 to present, are integrated into the online catalog system using standard search retrieval methods. The SuDoc call number, the format of the document, and the location code clearly indicate where the document is located in the library. Prior to 1976, the print Monthly Catalog and all related access tools provide the patron with bibliographic citations. The USF Tampa Library's web page provides access to the electronic collection of government information at <a href="http://www.lib.usf.edu/public/index.cfm?Pq=GovernmentDocuments">http://www.lib.usf.edu/public/index.cfm?Pq=GovernmentDocuments</a>

Last updated 11/09/07

Cheryl McCoy, MLS Federal Documents Coordinator Research Services & Collections USF Tampa Library