The Collaborative Federal Depositories Program (CFDP)

The libraries of the University of South Carolina, the University of Kentucky, and the University of Florida are participating in an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant-funded demonstration project called “Cooperative Federal Depository Program” (CFDP) under the leadership of the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL). This program seeks to provide workable solutions to address the increasing cost of managing, preserving, and providing access to large collections of Federal government publications through the creation of several comprehensive collections, known as “Centers of Excellence” (COE), of U.S. government information from each Federal government agency. Built upon the foundation of existing holdings at Depository libraries, these collections will become more complete with assistance from both Regionals and Selectives in the ten ASERL states. Centers of Excellence will:

- inventory holdings and ensure accurate cataloging and holdings records for the extant collection
- actively replace damaged or lost pieces,
- seek to fill holes in their collections, as necessary, via Needs and Offers lists,
- provide active preservation for the collection,
- catalog the pieces that they own on OCLC and identify them as the archival copy,
- participate in GPO's program to set holdings on OCLC for Regionals free of charge, if eligible,
- enhance the visibility of, and accessibility to, their collection through digitization of holdings or linking to available public domain digital copies, as feasible,
- actively participate in ILL/Document Delivery agreements, and
- provide expert reference service for and promote the use of their collection.

ASERL believes creating these COEs will result in more reliable and predictable access to Federal publications for all libraries and citizens in the Southeastern states by specifying which Depository libraries have the most complete holdings for each agency. ASERL appreciates the effort that all service points at their “centers” are putting into making sure their users know about the availability of these rich resources.

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The University of Kentucky serves as a COE for the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Contact: Sandra McAninch (mcaninch@uky.edu); and
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More information on this project can be found on the ASERL website at http://www.aserl.org/