Help & Support

U.S. Code

Quick Reference Guide

Browse content, retrieve specific documents, or perform a topical search.

Organization of the U.S. Code Library

The U.S. Code collection homepage features the ability to browse content by editions or by titles, a prominent citation locator, historical supporting documents such as Early Federal Codes and Compilations of Statutes, and external links to other versions of the U.S. Code as well as information about this history of this publication.

Browse Content

Click Browse by Edition to display a list of all U.S. Code editions from inception to current. The U.S. Code is published every six years, with annual supplements published between editions. Clicking any edition will produce a list of volumes and titles from within that edition. Clicking a volume will open its content in HeinOnline's familiar image-based format.

Click Browse by Title to display a list of all titles within the U.S. Code. Titles are based on specific subjects, such as Domestic Security or Agriculture. Clicking on any title will display a list of editions, and clicking an edition will produce a list of volumes from within that edition which contain the desired title.

Citation Locator

The U.S. Code has programmatic indexing to the section level. Use the citation locator from the top of the collection homepage to retrieve a document by its citation. Enter the title number, section number, and select an edition from the drop-down menu. You will be asked to select a section if there are multiple results that match your criteria, or you will be brought to the page in the U.S. Code which contains your specified section.
Searching the U.S. Code

Search the U.S. Code using the stationary main search bar at the top of any page within HeinOnline, or use the Advanced Search link to perform a more specific search.

Topical Search
If you are searching for information on the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act within Title 49 (Transportation) of the 2000 Edition, use the applicable advanced search fields. In search results, matching text will be highlighted in yellow.

TIP: The U.S. Code is the codified version of the U.S. Statutes at Large. Using the same Act as in the above example, search for this or any Statutes at Large citation using the same advanced search fields, but change the text to the citation, e.g. “115 Stat. 230”. The same theory applies to public law numbers from the U.S. Statutes at Large. Public laws should be searched for using this format:

Search by Section Title
Further refine search results by including a section title in your advanced search. For example, search for 20 U.S.C. 6533 by entering the section number followed by the section title as a phrase using a text field: “6533. Funding Distribution Rule”. Adding a title number and/or edition will help refine the search results even further.

For assistance searching in the U.S. Code or any HeinOnline collection, click the Search Help link located beneath the main search bar. This will produce a chart of the most commonly used search syntax.

U.S. Code eTOC Alerts
Set up eTOC alerts to receive an email notification when new content is added to the U.S. Code. Simply select Create eTOC Alert from the Browse By Edition option on the collection homepage.

NOTE: In order to use this tool, you must first set up a free MyHein personal research account.

For help navigating and searching in HeinOnline, contact our support team via email at holsupport@wshein.com, Live Chat, or by phone at (800) 277-6995.