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Selected Agency Budget Justifications for FY2015

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Summary

This report provides a convenient listing of online FY2015 agency budget justification submissions for all 15 executive branch departments and 9 selected independent agencies. In most cases, budget justifications contain more detailed descriptions of the proposals and programs that are provided in the President's budget submissions.

This report will be updated to reflect the current budget justifications submissions for the forthcoming fiscal year.

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Introduction

Budget justifications are detailed written materials, data, and supporting documents provided by federal agencies that expand upon and support the President's yearly budget submission to Congress.¹ In form and content, the justifications may vary by agency. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provides yearly instructions to the agencies for producing materials to be included in the President's budget submission and agency budget justifications. Each summer, OMB issues these instructions as part of a document entitled, *Circular No. A-11: Preparation, Submission, and Execution of the Budget*.²

The release of the budget justifications occurs soon after the release of the President's annual budget submission and in advance of congressional hearings on agency budget requests.³ Agencies submit budget justifications to the appropriations subcommittees to support the agency testimony and inform congressional deliberations. Beginning with the FY2008 executive budget cycle, agencies have also been required to post their congressional budget justification materials on the Internet within two weeks of transmittal to Congress.⁴

For more information, see CRS Report RS20268, *Agency Justification of the President's Budget*, by Michelle D. Christensen. Also see CRS Report 98-721, *Introduction to the Federal Budget Process*, coordinated by Bill Heniff Jr., which, in addition to providing a broader perspective on the budget process, includes a discussion of how the President's budget submission fits into the subsequent congressional budget process.

Online Access to Budget Justifications

Links to websites with FY2015 budget justification documents for each of the 15 executive departments and 9 selected independent agencies are provided below.⁵ Since the organization of the materials on agency websites can vary, brief guidance for navigating to FY2015-specific materials is provided below the links as appropriate.

¹ Additional details on the proposals and programs may also be available directly from the agencies themselves via congressional liaison or governmental affairs contacts listed in CRS Report 98-446, *Congressional Liaison Offices of Selected Federal Agencies*, by Audrey Celeste Crane-Hirsch. A listing of agencies included within each of the 12 regular appropriations bills is available in CRS Report R40858, *Locate an Agency or Program Within Appropriations Bills*, by Justin Murray.

² Circular A-11 is available on the White House website at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_a11_current_year_a11_toc. See Section 22.6. Note these requirements pertain to executive branch agencies but not to legislative and judicial agencies.

³ The OMB released the President's FY2015 Budget submission in two parts. The first part containing the *Budget* volume and *Budget Appendix* volume was released on March 4, 2014. The second part containing the *Analytical Perspectives* and *Historical Tables* volume were released on March 10, 2014. The President's FY2015 Budget submission may be accessed at the OMB Budget website at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget>. Additional information on accessing and contents of the FY2015 Budget submission are available in CRS Report R43475, *FY2015 Budget Documents: Internet and GPO Availability*, by Jared C. Nagel.

⁴ See Circular A-11, Section 22.6.

⁵ These are the nine independent agencies specified under the Chief Financial Officers Act of 1990, P.L. 101-576, 31 U.S.C. §501.

Executive Departments

Department of Agriculture

http://www.obpa.usda.gov/explan_notes.html

Department of Commerce

http://www.osec.doc.gov/bmi/budget/FY_2015_CBJ.html

Department of Defense

<http://comptroller.defense.gov/budgetmaterials.aspx>

Department of Education

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/budget15/justifications/index.html>

Department of Energy

<http://energy.gov/cfo/downloads/fy-2015-budget-justification>

Department of Health and Human Services

<http://www.hhs.gov/budget>

Click on “Budget Justifications to Congress” or scroll down to find links to justification contents by departmental division.

Department of Homeland Security

<http://www.dhs.gov/dhs-budget>

See links for “FY2015 Budget-in-Brief” and “Congressional Budget Justification FY2015.”

Department of Housing and Urban Development

http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/cfo/reports/fy15_CJ

Department of Interior

<http://www.doi.gov/budget/index.cfm>

See the link for “Fiscal Year 2015 Interior Budget in Brief.” Scroll down for links to individual departments and bureaus.

Department of Justice

<http://www.justice.gov/jmd/2015justification>

Department of Labor

<http://www.dol.gov/dol/budget/>

Department of State

<http://www.state.gov/s/d/rm/rls/ebs/2015/index.htm>

Department of Transportation

<http://www.dot.gov/mission/budget/fy2015-budget-estimates>

Department of Treasury

<http://www.treasury.gov/about/budget-performance/Pages/cj-index.aspx>

Department of Veterans Affairs

<http://www.va.gov/budget/products.asp>

See the links for “Current Fiscal Year (2015) Budget Submission” materials.

Selected Independent Agencies

Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www2.epa.gov/planandbudget/fy2015>

Click on “FY2015 Justification of Appropriation Estimates for Committee on Appropriations.”

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

<http://www.nasa.gov/news/budget/index.html>

Click on the “FY2015 Budget Estimate.”

Agency for International Development (AID)

<http://www.usaid.gov/results-and-data/budget-spending/congressional-budget-justification>

Click on the link for the “FY2015 Congressional Budget Justification.”

General Services Administration (GSA)

<http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/102463>

Click on the link for the “FY2015 Congressional Justification.”

National Sciences Foundation (NSF)

<http://www.nsf.gov/about/budget/>

Click on the “Fiscal Year 2015 Request.”

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/staff/sr1100/>

Click on Volume 30, “Congressional Budget Justification: Fiscal Year 2015.”

Office of Personnel Management (OPM)

<http://www.opm.gov/about-us/budget-performance/budgets/#url=Congressional-Budget-Justification>

Click on the “Fiscal Year 2015.”

Small Business Administration (SBA)

http://www.sba.gov/about-sba/sba_performance/performance_budget/congressional_budget_justification/annual_performance_reports

Click on “FY2015 Congressional Budget Justification.”

Social Security Administration (SSA)

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/budget>

Click on the “FY2015” tab.

Policy analysis for each of the 12 regular appropriations bills themselves are available via the CRS Appropriations Status Table by clicking on the corresponding CRS report for each bill at <http://www.crs.gov/Pages/AppropriationsStatusTable.aspx>. This report provides access for the 15 federal executive departments and 9 independent agencies noted above. Additional budget submissions to Congress for sub-agencies or quasi-government agencies may also be available online. An extensive and more comprehensive listing of all federal agencies and offices is

available in the current *U.S. Government Manual* at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/GOVMAN-2013-11-06/pdf/GOVMAN-2013-11-06.pdf>.

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