



Executive Departments

The Bureaucracy Institutions that help Enforce the Laws



The Vice President

- Constitution on lists two formal duties for Vice President
 - Preside over the senate
 - Help decide the question of presidential disability
 - Presidential disability is when the president is unable to carry out his duties
 - The only other assumed purpose of the vice president is to be a president in waiting.





The Executive Cabinet

- Not a formal organization mandated by law
 - Developed over the years as an informal group of advisors from each of the executive departments

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1... “he may require the Opinion, in writing of the principal Officer in each of the executive Departments, upon any Subject relating to the Duties of their respective Offices...”





Steps in the Process of Appointing Members of the Cabinet

- Presidential nomination
- White House review
- Paperwork financial disclosure
- FBI investigation
- Senate confirmation hearings
- Senate vote (majority needed)





Executive Cabinet Positions

- Secretary of State
- Secretary of the Treasury
- Attorney General
- Department of Defense
- Secretary of the Interior
- Secretary of Agriculture
- Secretary of Commerce
- Secretary of Labor
- Secretary of Health and Human Services
- Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
- Secretary of Transportation
- Secretary of Energy
- Secretary of Education
- Secretary of Veterans Affairs
- Secretary of Homeland Security



Current Cabinet for President Obama

Vice President of the United States

Joseph R. Biden

Department of State

Secretary John Kerry

Department of the Treasury

Secretary Jack Lew

Department of Defense

Secretary Ashton Carter

Department of Justice

Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch

Department of the Interior

Secretary Sally Jewell

Department of Agriculture

Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack

Department of Commerce

Secretary Penny Pritzker

Department of Labor

Secretary Thomas E. Perez

Department of Health and Human Services

Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Secretary Julián Castro

Department of Transportation

Secretary Anthony Foxx

Department of Energy

Secretary Ernest Moniz

Department of Education

Secretary John King

Department of Veterans Affairs

Secretary Robert McDonald

Department of Homeland Security

Secretary Jeh Johnson



Department of State

- Handles the foreign policy of the nation
- Staffs embassies
- Analyzes data about American interests in other nations
- Speaks for the U.S. at the United Nations





Department of the Treasury

- Serves as the financial division of the government
- Manages public debt
- Collects taxes
- Manufactures coins and currency
- Administers explosive and firearm laws
- Regulates the production and distribution of alcohol and tobacco





Department of Justice

- Oversees the nation's legal affairs
- Supervises the agencies that serve as the nation's police and prison system
- Enforces antitrust laws





Department of Defense

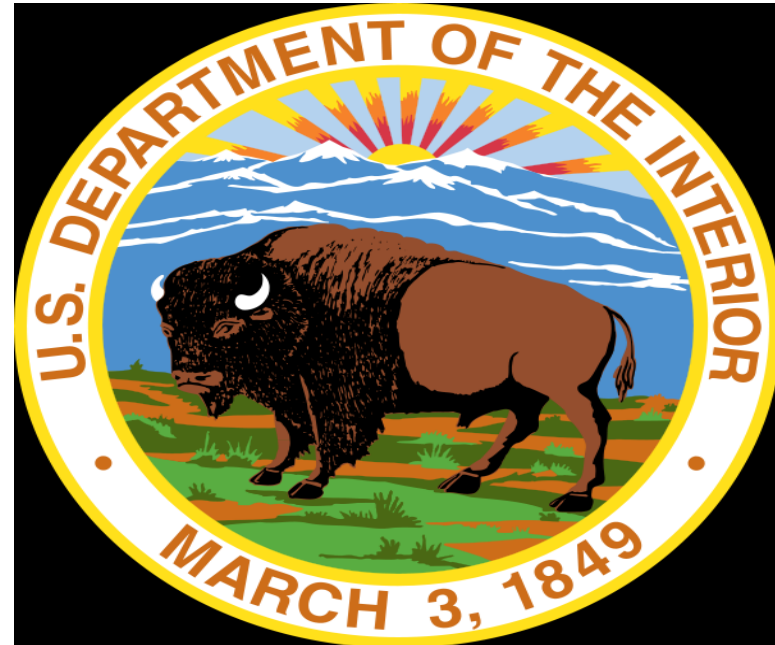
- Protects the security of the United States
- Oversees the armed forces through the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Until 1949 was called the Department of War





Department of Interior

- Protects the public lands and natural resources throughout the U.S.
- Oversees relationships with Native Americans





Department of Agriculture

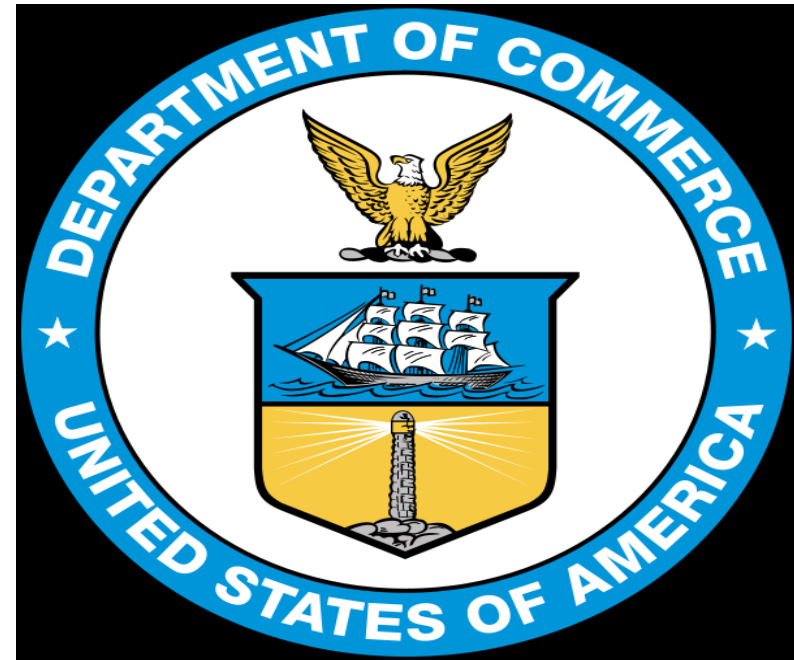
- Helps farmers improve incomes and production for home and abroad
- Develops conservation programs
- Safeguards the nation's food supply





Department of Commerce

- Promotes and protects the industrial and commercial parts of the economy
- Carries out the census





Department of Labor

- Ensures safe working conditions
- Oversees minimum wages and protects pensions
- Collects and analyzes data on employment





Department of Health and Human Services

- Oversees programs concerned with health and social services of the American people
- Manages federal medicare and medicaid





Department of Housing and Urban Development

- Works to assist communities in the nation
- Ensures equal housing opportunities





Department of Transportation

- Regulates America's transportation needs, policies and planning.
- Works to ensure safe, efficient, and convenient land and air transportation





Department of Energy

- Plans energy policy
- Researches and develops energy technology





Department of Education

- Co-ordinates federal assistance programs for public and private schools
- Develops programs to help students with limited English proficiency and physically challenged students





Department of Veterans Affairs

- Oversees medical care for veterans and families
- Manages educational programs for veterans





Department of Homeland Security

- Charged with protecting the security of America's borders, shores, land and the safety of its people
- Newest department created after September 11, 2001





Other Cabinet Level Positions

- The Vice President
- Head of the Office of Management and Budget
- Head of the Environmental Protection Agency
- White House chief of Staff
- United States Trade Representative
- Head of the Office of Nation Drug Control Policy





NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

- National Security Council advises President on issues of national security and foreign policy
- Comprised of High Ranking officials from departments
- Coordinate policy with departments and states





Office of Management and Budget

- Office of Management and Budget assists President in issues related to the national budget
 - Supervises budget of Executive Branch Agencies
 - Handles management, information, and regulation of Executive Budget
- Also has Council of Economic Advisors to help with foreign and domestic economic issues





Office of National Drug Control Policy

- ONDCP works to establish policies, priorities, and objectives for the Nation's drug control program
- Collects data and tries to lower illicit drug use and drug related crime
- Coordinates anti-drug policies nationally

