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# The President's Budget Request:

## The Budget Appendix

1,200+ PAGES OF ACCOUNT-LEVEL DETAIL.  
HERE'S HOW TO READ IT.



# What Is It?

The Appendix is where the actual numbers live.

Everything else –

- the main budget document,
- Analytical Perspectives,
- the press releases –

is context and narrative.

If you can read the Appendix, you can read the budget.

# How It's Organized

Every account follows the same pattern:

- Proposed appropriations language
- Program and Financing schedule
- Object Classification
- Personnel Summary

Learn one account, read any of them.

# Proposed Language

The Appendix includes proposed bill text for every account.

Regular text = existing law

**[Bold brackets]** = proposed deletions

*Italics* = proposed additions

Compare to last year to see what changed.

# P&F Schedule

The Program and Financing schedule is the core.

It answers four questions:

- What are we requesting?
- What are we doing with it?
- How much do we have?
- How does it obligate and outlay?

# Program Activities

The bill might say "\$8.75 billion for the Federal Prison System."

The P&F schedule shows you:

- Inmate Care and Programs: \$3.6B
- Institution Security: \$4.4B
- Contract Confinement: \$707M

That detail isn't in the appropriations text.

# Object Classification

Object classification shows what kind of spending:

Personnel, contracts, grants, medical care, equipment, travel...

The Federal Prison System is 70% compensation and benefits. Object 25.6 shows \$478M in medical care alone.

# How to Navigate

Don't browse 1,300 pages. **Search.**

- Ctrl+F for your agency or account name
- Use the table of contents
- Accounts use the same names as in appropriations acts

# Read our full guide

