

Government Information For Your Mobile Phone

CUNY Graduate Center
Mobile apps workgroup

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1

Today's Speakers



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2

Why Government Apps?

Citizen Engagement

- Agencies and Innovative Technologies
- Open Data
 - [GIS Data files-NYCDHMH, Census Tiger/Line
- Collaboration Across Governments
- Reliability, accountability, authenticity

CUNY Community

- Student, faculty engagement of Government resources
- Outreach to other college departments
- Outreach to citizens outside of CUNY schools

3

What to expect

- There is no consistency in terms of platform or design. Gov apps can be for any combination of Apple, Android, mobile website.
- Emphasis is more on content than on design.
- In most cases app creation is a secondary activity for an agency and future development are subject to budget availability.

4

Platforms

- Government apps are available on:
 - IOS
 - Android
 - Blackberry
 - Not available on Windows phones yet

5

Considerations

- Information from apps is more widely used for ready reference and fact checking and less as a citable primary source
- For academic papers prefer the official version when available – these are often authenticated and easier to cite.

6

Promote Government Apps

- Pinterest Board
<http://pinterest.com/lehmanlibrary/government-information/>
- Mobile Databases List
<http://libguides.lehman.edu/mobiledatabases>
- LibGuide
<http://libguides.lehman.edu/finding-government-information>
- Newsletter
<http://www.lehman.edu/library/newsletter.php>
- Download government apps on library mobile devices
- Promote them in Information Literacy classes

7

Background Readings: The Dialogue

- Library Websites Adapt to Smartphone Growth. Library Hotline. August 6, 2012.
<http://www.thedigitalshift.com/2012/07/mobile/library-websites-adapt-to-smartphone-growth/>
- Mobile Apps vs Mobile Websites
<http://www.howto.gov/training/classes/mobile-apps-vs-mobile-web>
- 12 Top Health Apps From Uncle Sam
<http://www.informationweek.com/healthcare/mobile-wireless/12-top-health-apps-from-uncle-sam/240007545>

8

The Apps

- Group 1: Financial/
economic
 - FRED
- Group 2

9

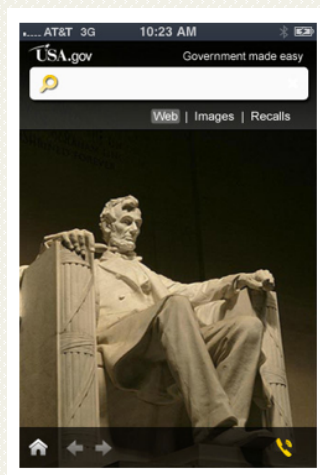
Group 1:

MAIN GOVERNMENT GATEWAYS

10

USA.gov

- USA.gov Mobile site and iPhone app allow you to search federal, state, and local government websites and contact your government by phone or email
- Mobile website + iPhone download
<http://apps.usa.gov/usagov.shtml>



11

Science.gov

- Dept of Energy (DOE)
- Science information from 12 U.S. agencies
- Get answers from 50 scientific databases
- Platform: Mobile website & Android
- Website:
<http://apps.usa.gov/science-gov-mobile.shtml>



12

Science.gov (cont.)

- Android only
- Science.gov is a federated search engine for about 55 SciTech databases
- Searched should be narrow otherwise it takes forever to get results.

13

Group 2:

FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC DATA

14

FRED

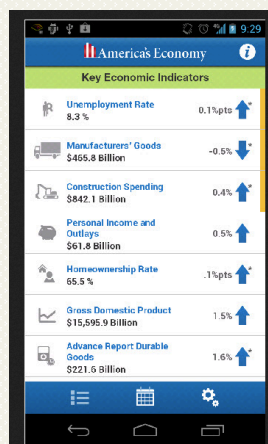
Federal Reserve Economic Data

- Access economic data from national and international sources.
- Create graphs and store data from St. Louis Fed's signature database— FRED.
- For students, financial market professionals, academics and anyone else interested in economic data.
- Platform: Apple, Android
- Website: <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred-mobile/>



America's Economy

- Agency: Census bureau
- Platform: Android
- 16 economic indicators including the ability to track monthly and quarterly trends in industries, such as employment, housing construction, international trade, personal income, retail sales and manufacturing
- Apple & Android
- Website: <http://www.census.gov/mobile/>



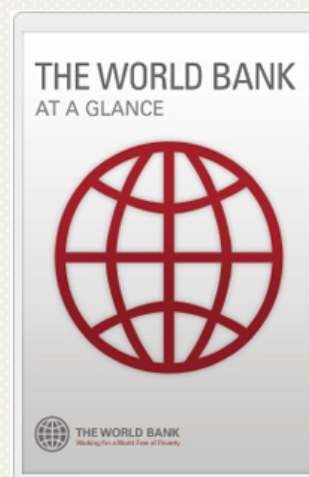
America's Economy (cont.)

- Current economic indicators from the U.S. Census and Dept. of Labor Statistics
- Clear, informative, up-to-date, fun
- Helpful for fact-checking, for single statistics
- The Calendar icon refers to upcoming statistic releases.
- Allows some level of interactivity (e.g. – select timeframe to display on graph)
- Links to PFD reports from the Census or BLS.gov websites

17

Beyond Our Borders: World Bank

- The World Bank
- Platform: Apple
- Includes:
- Website:
[http://
 itunes.apple.com/us/
 app/world-bank-at-a-
 glance/id502723530?
 mt=8](http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/world-bank-at-a-glance/id502723530?mt=8)



18

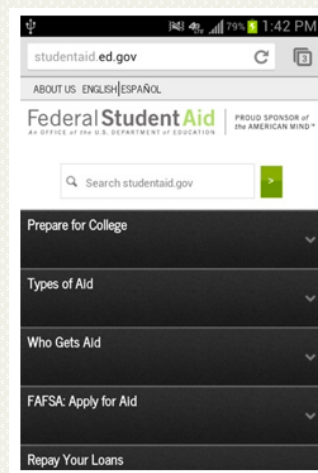
World Bank (cont.)

- Reliable statistical data on economic and development data from around the world.
- Browse by Country, Topic, Economic indicators, or construct advanced queries.
- Table, graph and map views
- Allows for complex work, saving queries and maps
- Additional apps from the World Bank
<http://apps.worldbank.org/>

19

Student Aid

- Agency: Dept. of Ed
- Platform: Mobile website
- Includes: 2013 budget plans
- Intended for students and parents
- Available in English & Spanish
- Contains infographics & video
- <http://studentaid.ed.gov/>



20

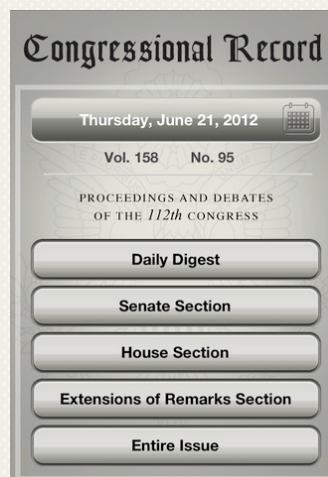
Group 3:

RECENT AND NOTEWORTHY PUBLICATIONS AND COLLECTIONS

21

The Congressional Record

- Agency: Created by Library of Congress
- Platform: Apple
- Includes: CR from 1995 (104th Cong.)
- Keyword search within documents
- Share documents via e-mail
- Save documents
- Latest bills, resolutions, treaties in House and Senate
- Website:
<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/the-congressional-record/id492077075?mt=8>



22

The Congressional Record (cont.)

- The CR is the official newspaper of Congress and published every day that congress is in session.
- Published since 1873
- Online and app versions from 1995
- Browse only – no search function
- The app requires beginning with a Date, then selecting a Section of the CR.
- The “About” section of the app explains how the CR is organized
- Works best for known date/item search

23

U.S. Gov FY13 Budget app

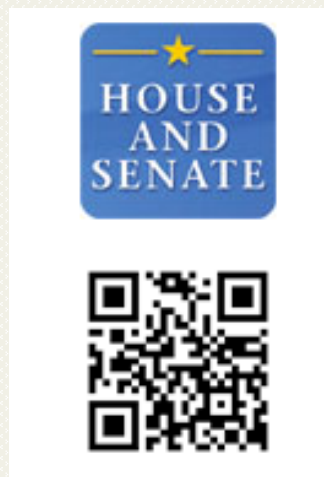
- Agency: Created by Government Printing Office
- Platform: Mobile website
- Includes: 2013 budget plans
- Arranged by agency
- Includes executive summary, more detailed description and PDF of budget.
- No search option, browse only, but links to budget of FDsys for full search capabilities
- Mobile website
<http://www.gpo.gov/mobile/>



24

Member Guide to the 112th Cong.

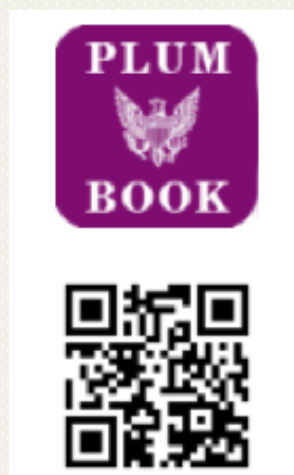
- Agency: GPO
- Includes:
 - Official biographical information for House Members and Senators
 - Contact information for House Members and Senators' offices in Washington, D.C. and home districts
 - Counties and zip codes that each House Member represents
 - Links to House Members and Senators'
 - Mobile website Website: <http://www.gpo.gov/mobile/>



25

The Plum Book

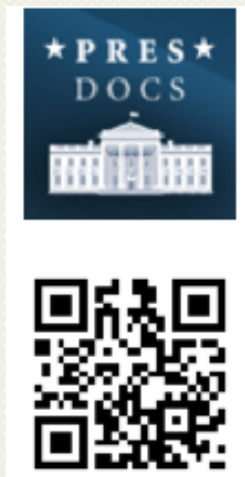
- Official title: United States Government Policy and Supporting Positions
- Published every 4 years after an election.
- Lists political and appointed positions.
- Mobile website: <http://m.gpo.gov/plumbook/>



26

Presidential Documents

- Mobile access to *Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents*.
- Includes
 - executive orders, speeches, statements, approved acts, nominations submitted to the Senate, White House announcements and press releases
- Mobile website
<http://m.gpo.gov/dcpd/>



27

White House

- News, press briefings, photos, videos, live streaming
- Platform: Android, iPhone, Mobile web
- Website:
<http://apps.usa.gov/the-white-house-app.shtml>



28

Today's Document

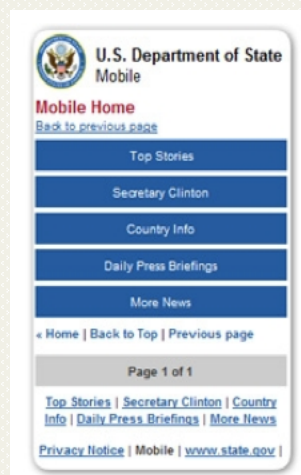
- From the National Archive.
- Learn what significant event happened on your birthday, search the documents by keyword, or browse the collection at your leisure.
- iPhone/iPad
<http://apps.usa.gov/todays-doc.shtml>



29

State Dept. Mobile

- Foreign policy information from the State Department:
 - Recent stories;
 - Secretary Clinton's remarks, travel and daily appointments schedule;
 - Country Info (A-Z access to Background Notes)
 - Daily Press Briefings
 - More News (Fact sheets and other press releases).
- Mobile website:
<http://m.state.gov/>



30

Group 4:

CONSUMER INFORMATION

31

FEMA

Federal Emergency Management Agency

- Preparedness information, interactive emergency checklist
- Plan emergency meeting locations, staying safe, recovering after a disaster
- Platform: iPhone, iPad
Android, Blackberry
- Website:
<http://apps.usa.gov/fema-mobile.shtml>



32

ABC EATs NYC Health App

- NYC Health Department Restaurant Inspection Grades
- Detailed inspection reports for each of the City's 24,000 restaurants
- Platform: Apple
- Website: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/digital/html/apps/apps.shtml>



33

NYC 311

- Dept of Information Technology and Telecommunications
- NYC non-emergency information and services
- Report potholes, street light, damaged tree, homeless person, taxi lost property
- Platform: Apple
- Website: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/nyc-city-hall/id375398827?mt=8>



34

52 Weeks for Women's Health

- The National Institutes of Health (NIH), Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH)
- Features A-Z Health Topics, My Health, My Journal, My Favorites and My Goals.
- Platform: Android, iPhone
- Website:
<http://apps.usa.gov/52-weeks-for-women%27s-health.shtml>



35

CDC

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Health information, disease of the week
- Journal articles from CDC's Preventing Chronic Disease Journal and Emerging Infectious Diseases Journal.
- Reports from CDC's weekly Morbidity and Mortality Reports.
- Images from CDC's Public Health Image library.
- Platform: iPad, Android
- Website:
<http://apps.usa.gov/cdc-mobile-app.shtml>



36

EyeNote

- Bureau of Engraving and Printing
- Assists blind and visually impaired denominate US currency
- Platform: Apple
- Uses image recognition technology, requires 51% scanned note
- Website:
www.moneyfactory.gov



37

PTSD Coach

- Dept of Veterans Affairs
- Designed for Veterans and military service members
- Learn about PTSD, Self-Assessment, manage symptoms, find support
- Platform: Apple, Android
- Website:
<http://apps.usa.gov/ptsd-coach.shtml>



38

Docs Teach

- A National Archives educational tool
- Need to sign-up to use “Docs Teach” materials
- Primary resources, historical videos
- Platform: iPad
- Website:
<http://apps.usa.gov/docsteach.shtml>



39

Sesame Street App for Military Families

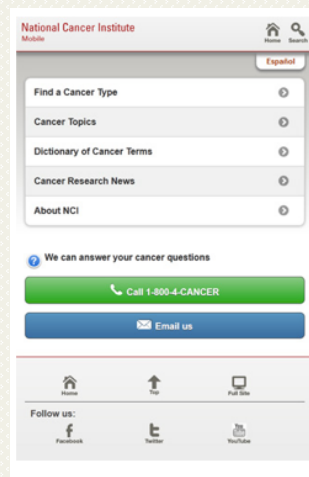
- Non-governmental
- Helps children deal with family transitions and adjust to their parents deployments
- Videos, articles, storybooks, parent guides in English and Spanish
- Platform: Apple, Android
- Website:
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sesame-street-for-military/id550520652?mt=8>



40

Health Information: Cancer

- Agency: National Cancer Institute
- English & Spanish
- Includes:
 - Cancer diagnosis and treatment
 - Dealing with side effects
 - Question to ask your doctor
 - Dictionary of cancer terms
- Platform: Mobile website
- Website: <http://apps.usa.gov/m-cancer-gov.shtml>



41

Non-Governmental: The Red Cross

- First Aid by the American Red Cross
- Includes:
 - step-by-step instructions guide you through everyday first aid scenarios
 - integrated with 9-1-1 so you can call EMS from the app at any time
 - Videos and animations make learning first aid fun and easy
- Platform: Android & Apple
- Website: <http://www.redcross.org/prepare/mobile-apps>



42

Health Hotlines

- Natl Library of Medicine
- Toll-free numbers of health-related organizations
- Information on services
- Platform: Apple
- Website:
<http://healthhotlines.nlm.nih.gov>



43

USA Jobs

- This application is a companion to USAJOBS.gov, the official job site of the US Federal Government and your one-stop source for Federal jobs and employment information.
- iPhone
- 1/6/13 update – not working



44