


Executive Branch Activity

Borrowed from Westport K-12


The President

The President is the Head of the Executive Branch and generally viewed as the head of the U.S. Government. While he does have significant power, his power is limited by the Constitution.

President of the United States		Name	Powers/Responsibilities






The Vice President

The Constitution pays little attention to the office of the Vice President. However, the Vice President has an office in the West Wing of the White House, as well as in the nearby Eisenhower Executive Office Building. Like the President, he also maintains an official residence, at the United States Naval Observatory in Northwest Washington, D.C.




Vice President of the United States		Name	Powers/Responsibilities

The Cabinet.

The purpose of the Cabinet is to advise the President on matters relating to the duties of their respective offices. As the President's closest and most trusted advisors, members of the Cabinet attend weekly meetings with the President. The Constitution does not directly mention a "Cabinet," but the Constitutional authority for a Cabinet is found in Article II, Section 2. The Constitution states that the President "may require the opinion, in writing of the principle officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices." The Constitution does not say which or how many executive departments should be created.





Department Name	Seal	Department Head Title and Name	Mission/Goals
State			
Treasury			
Defense			
Justice			
Interior			






Agriculture			
Commerce			
Labor			
Health and Human Services			
Housing and Urban Development			
Transportation			
Energy			

Education			
Veterans Affairs			
Homeland Security			

Independent Agencies

Until the 1880s, nearly all that the Federal Government did was done through its Cabinet departments. Since then, however, Congress has created a large number of additional agencies – the independent agencies – that are separate from the Cabinet, but still contained within the executive branch. Today, they number nearly 150. Each agency is headed by an administrator, which is appointed by the president. They are responsible for the day-to-day enforcement and administration of federal laws.

Agency Name	Seal	Agency Head Title and Name	Mission/Goals
Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)			
Center for Disease Control (CDC)			
Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)			
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)			
National Security Council	NA		

Fed. Emergency Management Admin. (FEMA)			
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)			
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)			
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)			
Office of the Director of National Intelligence			
U.S. Mission to the United Nations	NA		