

U.S. Public Records



Essen DDJ Meetup: September 19, 2016

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Freedom of Information Act

“The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) has provided the public the right to request access to records from any federal agency. It is often described as the law that keeps citizens in the know about their government”

Effective July 5, 1967

source: [foi.gov](https://www.foi.gov)

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FOIA

- ▶ Anyone can use FOIA
- ▶ Agency has 20 working days to respond & can take 10 day extension if needed
- ▶ Must include a “reasonable description” of what you’re looking for
- ▶ Can get any “records” that are already created

Exemptions

- 1: National security
- 2: Internal agency rules
- 3: Statutory exemption
4. Trade secrets
5. Internal agency memos
6. Personal privacy
7. Law enforcement records
8. Financial institution reports
9. Oil and gas well data

Examples of what you can request

Travel records
Emails, Calendars
Salary records (ex: contracts)
Audits
Organizational charts
Phone call logs
Inspection reports
Budgets
Projections
Quality reports

RCFP state guide

The screenshot shows the homepage of the RCFP Open Government Guide. The header features the RCFP logo and a tagline. Below the header, there are navigation links for research and browsing media law resources. The main content area is titled 'Open Government Guide' and includes a description of the guide's purpose. A 'Browse' section lists states in three columns. On the right, there is a 'Download/view as PDF' section with a list of states.

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► **Browse Media Law Resources**
► Briefs & Comments ► Litigation ► Guides ► News ► Magazine

search

Home ► Browse Media Law Resources ► Guides

Open Government Guide

The **Open Government Guide** is a complete compendium of information on every state's open records and open meetings laws. Each state's section is arranged according to a standard outline, making it easy to compare laws in various states. If you're a new user of this guide, be sure to read the Introductory Note and User's Guide.

Please note: These guides cover state laws. We also have a separate [Federal Open Government Guide](#).

Background: • [Introduction](#) • [User's Guide](#) • [Credits](#)

Browse

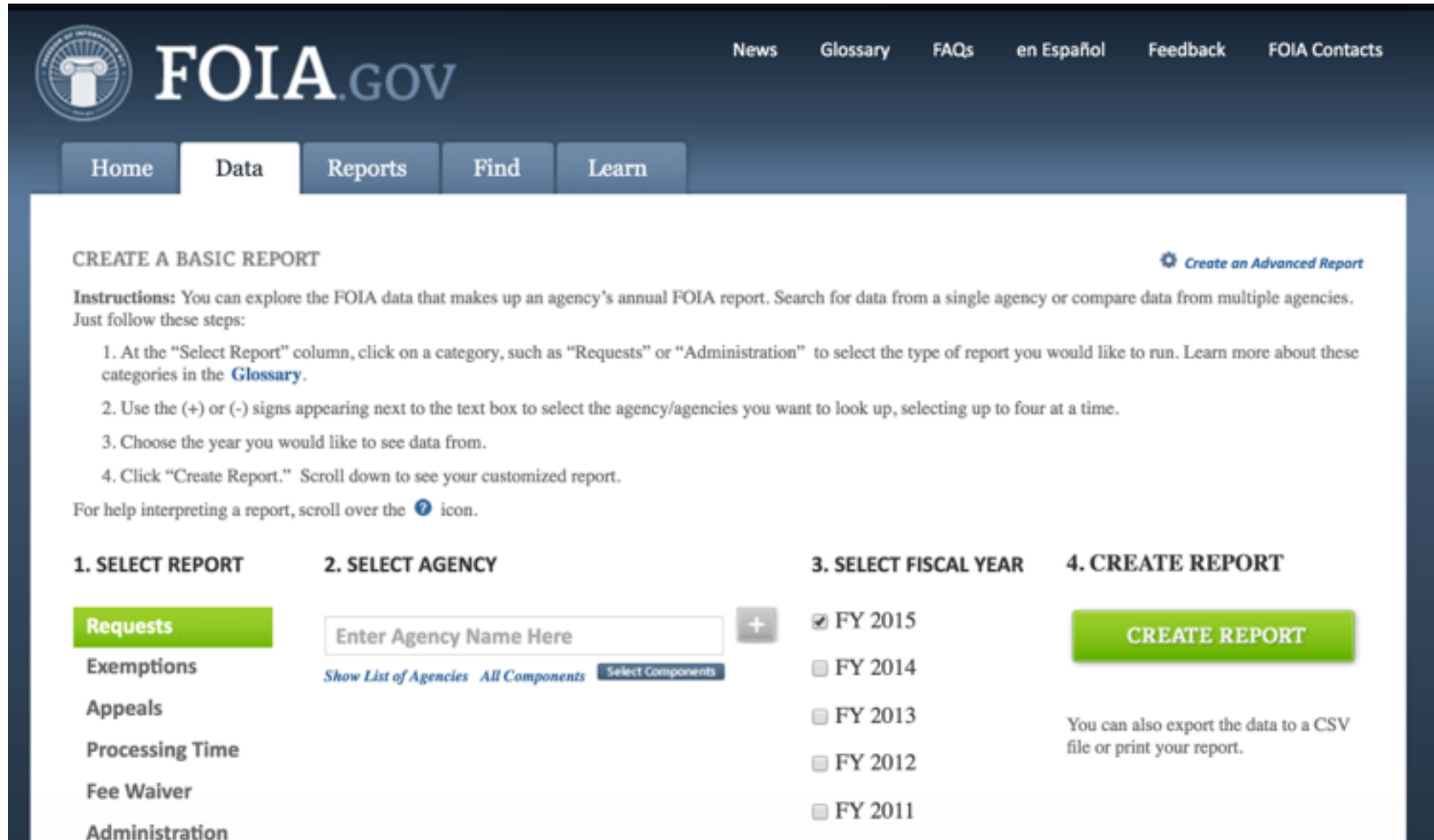
- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- South Dakota

Download/view as PDF:

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- Alaska
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- Arkansas
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- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia

<https://www.rcfp.org/open-government-guide>

FOI



The screenshot shows the FOIA.gov website's 'Data' section. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for News, Glossary, FAQs, en Español, Feedback, and FOIA Contacts. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with Home, Data (selected), Reports, Find, and Learn. The main content area is titled 'CREATE A BASIC REPORT' and includes a link to 'Create an Advanced Report'. Instructions guide users through four steps: selecting a report category, choosing an agency, selecting a fiscal year, and creating the report. The interface is divided into four columns corresponding to these steps. Column 1, 'SELECT REPORT', lists categories like Requests, Exemptions, Appeals, Processing Time, Fee Waiver, and Administration, with 'Requests' highlighted. Column 2, 'SELECT AGENCY', features a text input for the agency name, a plus icon, and links to 'Show List of Agencies', 'All Components', and 'Select Components'. Column 3, 'SELECT FISCAL YEAR', shows a list of years from FY 2015 to FY 2011, with FY 2015 selected. Column 4, 'CREATE REPORT', contains a large green 'CREATE REPORT' button and a note about exporting data to CSV or printing.

FOIA.GOV

News Glossary FAQs en Español Feedback FOIA Contacts

Home Data Reports Find Learn

CREATE A BASIC REPORT [Create an Advanced Report](#)

Instructions: You can explore the FOIA data that makes up an agency's annual FOIA report. Search for data from a single agency or compare data from multiple agencies. Just follow these steps:

1. At the "Select Report" column, click on a category, such as "Requests" or "Administration" to select the type of report you would like to run. Learn more about these categories in the [Glossary](#).
2. Use the (+) or (-) signs appearing next to the text box to select the agency/agencies you want to look up, selecting up to four at a time.
3. Choose the year you would like to see data from.
4. Click "Create Report." Scroll down to see your customized report.

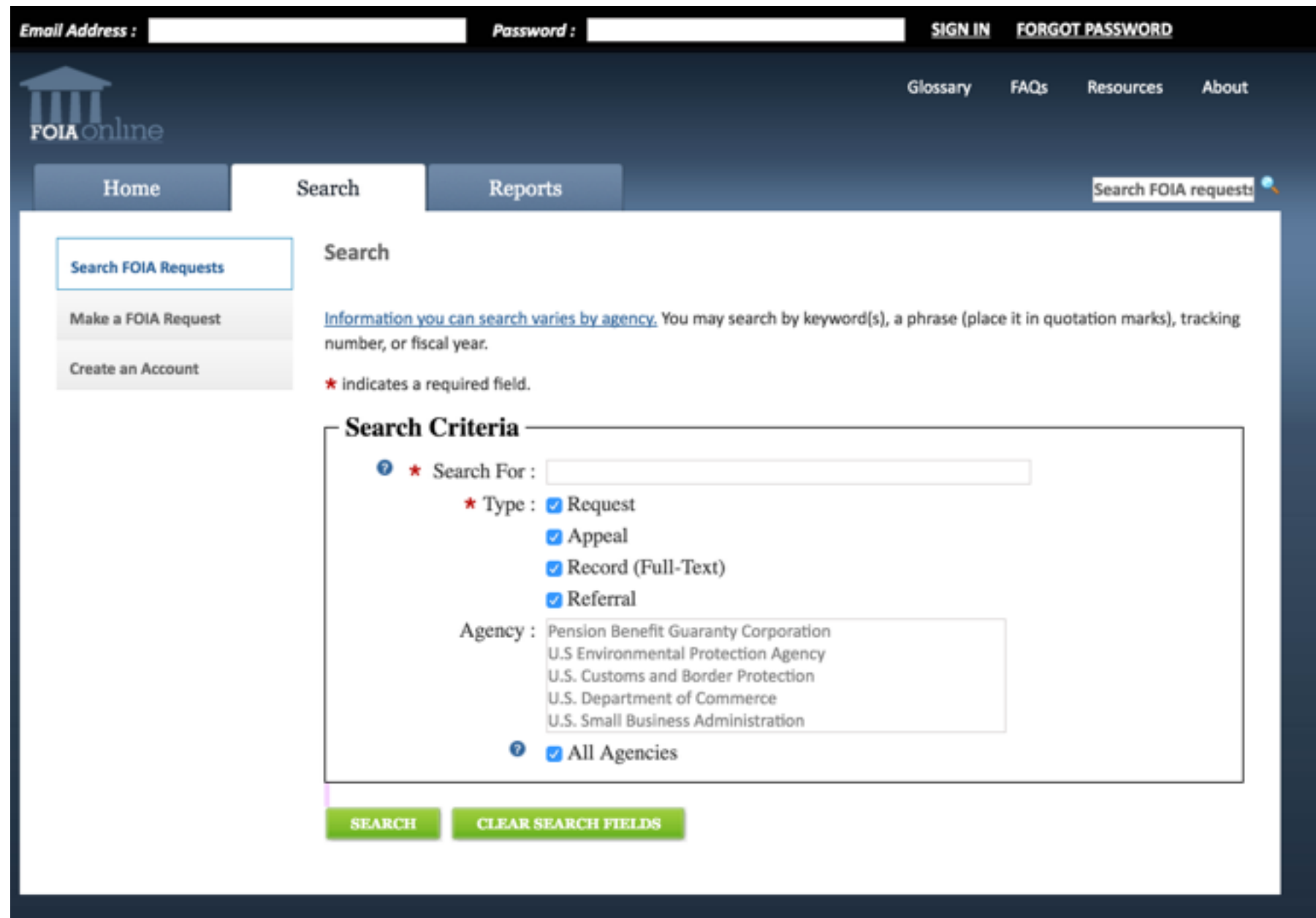
For help interpreting a report, scroll over the [?](#) icon.

1. SELECT REPORT	2. SELECT AGENCY	3. SELECT FISCAL YEAR	4. CREATE REPORT
Requests Exemptions Appeals Processing Time Fee Waiver Administration	Enter Agency Name Here Show List of Agencies All Components Select Components	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FY 2015 <input type="checkbox"/> FY 2014 <input type="checkbox"/> FY 2013 <input type="checkbox"/> FY 2012 <input type="checkbox"/> FY 2011	CREATE REPORT You can also export the data to a CSV file or print your report.

Some tips

- ▶ Do your research —> know the form the agency uses or what they are required to keep/record
- ▶ See the track record of prior FOIAs
- ▶ Records retention schedules
- ▶ Search DocumentCloud and pdf/excel search

Search for other FOIs



The screenshot shows the FOIAonline website interface. At the top, there are input fields for 'Email Address' and 'Password', with links for 'SIGN IN' and 'FORGOT PASSWORD'. Below these are links for 'Glossary', 'FAQs', 'Resources', and 'About'. The main navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Search', and 'Reports'. A search bar on the right says 'Search FOIA requests!'. On the left, there are buttons for 'Search FOIA Requests', 'Make a FOIA Request', and 'Create an Account'. The 'Search' section contains a heading 'Search' and a paragraph: 'Information you can search varies by agency. You may search by keyword(s), a phrase (place it in quotation marks), tracking number, or fiscal year. * indicates a required field.' Below this is a 'Search Criteria' box. Inside, there is a 'Search For' field, a 'Type' section with checkboxes for 'Request', 'Appeal', 'Record (Full-Text)', and 'Referral' (all checked), and an 'Agency' section with a list of agencies: 'Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation', 'U.S. Environmental Protection Agency', 'U.S. Customs and Border Protection', 'U.S. Department of Commerce', and 'U.S. Small Business Administration'. There is also an 'All Agencies' checkbox which is checked. At the bottom of the search criteria box are two buttons: 'SEARCH' and 'CLEAR SEARCH FIELDS'.

Email Address : Password : [SIGN IN](#) [FORGOT PASSWORD](#)

[Glossary](#) [FAQs](#) [Resources](#) [About](#)

[Home](#) [Search](#) [Reports](#)

[Search FOIA Requests](#)

[Make a FOIA Request](#)

[Create an Account](#)

Search

Information you can search varies by agency. You may search by keyword(s), a phrase (place it in quotation marks), tracking number, or fiscal year.

* indicates a required field.

Search Criteria

* Type : ☒ Request ☒ Appeal ☒ Record (Full-Text) ☒ Referral

Agency :

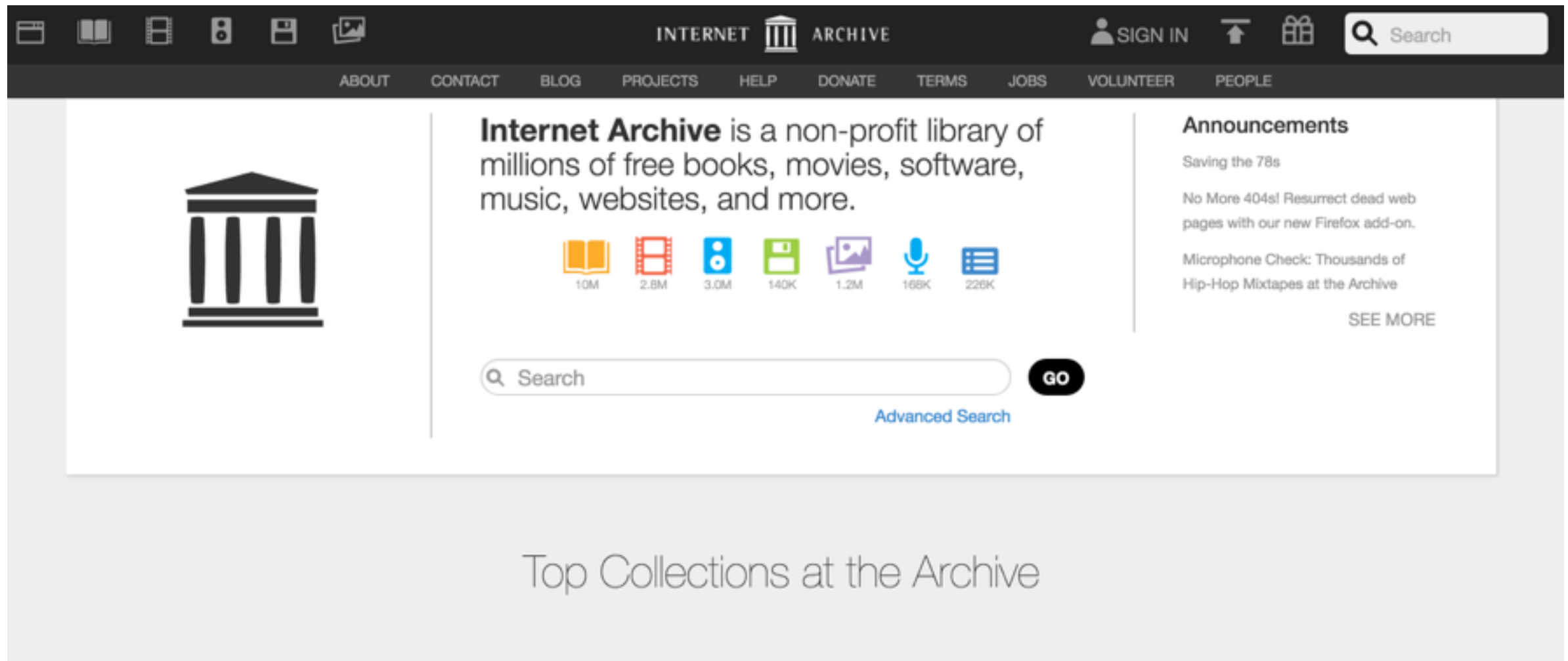
☒ All Agencies

[SEARCH](#) [CLEAR SEARCH FIELDS](#)

<http://bit.ly/2cZUsRM>

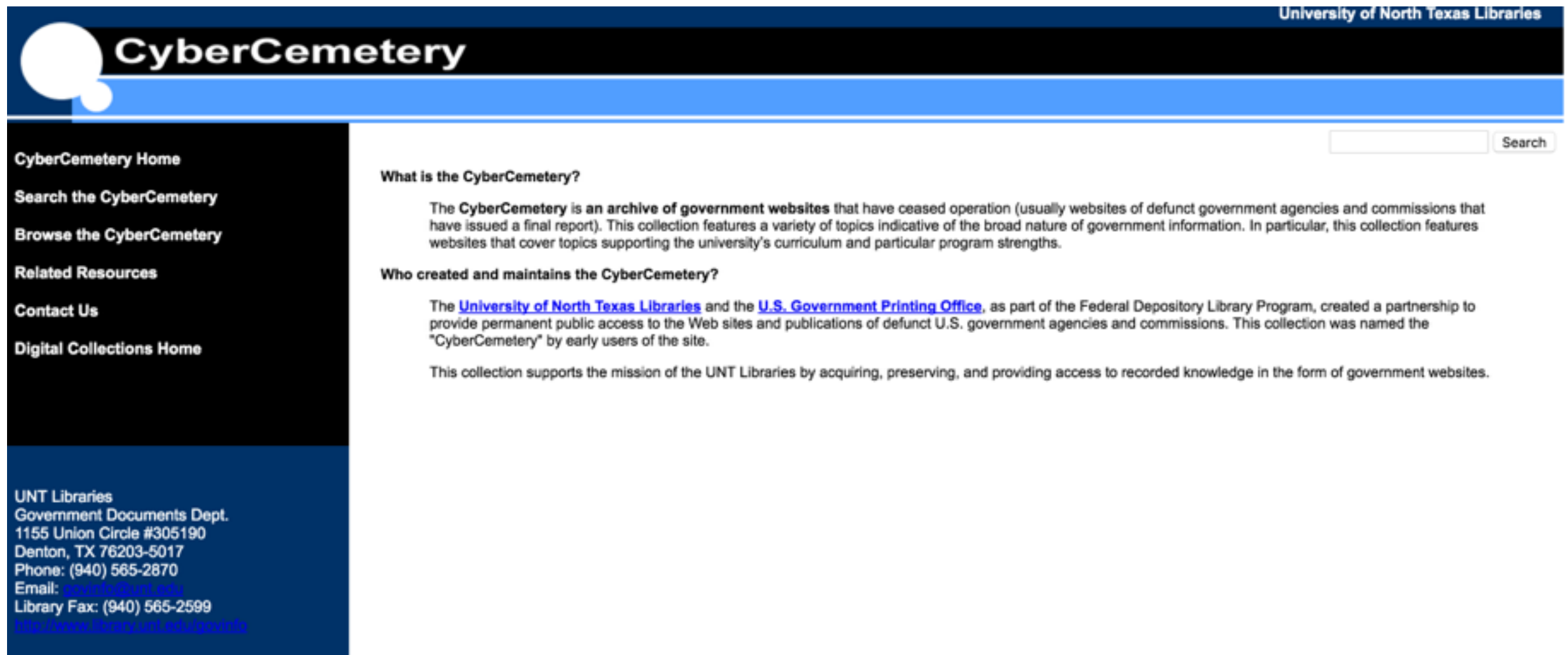
@sandhya__k

Internet Archive



<https://archive.org/>

Cyber cemetery



The screenshot shows the CyberCemetery website. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the text "University of North Texas Libraries" on the right and the "CyberCemetery" logo on the left. Below the header is a light blue horizontal bar. On the left side, there is a dark blue sidebar with white text listing navigation options: "CyberCemetery Home", "Search the CyberCemetery", "Browse the CyberCemetery", "Related Resources", "Contact Us", and "Digital Collections Home". At the bottom of the sidebar, contact information for UNT Libraries is provided. The main content area on the right has a search bar and a "Search" button. Below the search bar, there are two sections: "What is the CyberCemetery?" and "Who created and maintains the CyberCemetery?". The first section explains that the CyberCemetery is an archive of government websites that have ceased operation. The second section states that the University of North Texas Libraries and the U.S. Government Printing Office created the site as part of the Federal Depository Library Program. A final paragraph mentions that the collection supports the mission of the UNT Libraries by acquiring, preserving, and providing access to recorded knowledge in the form of government websites.

University of North Texas Libraries

CyberCemetery

CyberCemetery Home
Search the CyberCemetery
Browse the CyberCemetery
Related Resources
Contact Us
Digital Collections Home

UNT Libraries
Government Documents Dept.
1155 Union Circle #305190
Denton, TX 76203-5017
Phone: (940) 565-2870
Email: govinfo@unt.edu
Library Fax: (940) 565-2599
<http://www.library.unt.edu/govinfo>

What is the CyberCemetery?

The CyberCemetery is an archive of government websites that have ceased operation (usually websites of defunct government agencies and commissions that have issued a final report). This collection features a variety of topics indicative of the broad nature of government information. In particular, this collection features websites that cover topics supporting the university's curriculum and particular program strengths.

Who created and maintains the CyberCemetery?

The [University of North Texas Libraries](#) and the [U.S. Government Printing Office](#), as part of the Federal Depository Library Program, created a partnership to provide permanent public access to the Web sites and publications of defunct U.S. government agencies and commissions. This collection was named the "CyberCemetery" by early users of the site.

This collection supports the mission of the UNT Libraries by acquiring, preserving, and providing access to recorded knowledge in the form of government websites.

<http://govinfo.library.unt.edu/>

Examples

The Chronicle of Higher Education piece:

<http://chronicle.com/interactives/ncaa-subsidies-main>

Huffington Post piece:

<http://projects.huffingtonpost.com/ncaa/sports-at-any-cost>

What we found

- ▶ From 2010-14, 201 public universities have pumped more than \$10.3B in student fees & other subsidies into their sports programs
- ▶ Average athletic subsidy increased 16% during those 5 years & student fees, which accounted for nearly half of all subsidies, increased by 10 percent

What we found

- ▶ Subsidy rates are the highest where ticket sales and other revenue are the lowest → so students who have the least interest in their teams are often required to pay the most to support them
- ▶ The colleges that are heavily subsidized serve poorer populations than colleges who can depend on more outside revenue for sports

F24														
Jason Maderer														
	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W
1	Power Conferen	Is Private	SID	SID Email	SID Phone	Football Coach	Offensive Coord.	Defensive Coord.	Men's BB Coach	Women's BB Coa	NCAA EXPENSE I	Coach Contract -	DATE FOIA FILED	REDACTED?
2	FALSE	FALSE	Lizzie Barlow	ebarlow2@albany	518-442-3359	Greg Gattuso	Joe Bernard	Bernard Clark	Will Brown	Katie Abrahamson	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		FE
3	FALSE	FALSE	John Hartrick	hartrick@bingham	607-777-6800				Tommy Dempsey	Linda Cimino	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
4	FALSE	FALSE	Laura Reed	laura.reed@maine	207-581-3646	Jack Cosgrove	Kevin Bourgoi	Joseph Harasymia	Bob Walsh	Richard Barron	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
5	FALSE	FALSE	Steve Levy	slevy@umbc.edu	410-455-2197				Aki Thomas	Phil Stern	FILED	FULFILLED		
6		FALSE	Pete Souris	Peter_souris@un	978-934-3771				Pat Duquette	Jenerrie Harris	FILED	FILED		YE
7	FALSE	FALSE	Mike Murphy	mike.murphy@unh	603-862-3906	Sean McDonnell	Ryan Carty	John Lyons	Bill Herrion	Maureen Magarity	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
8	FALSE	FALSE	Brian Miller	brian.j.miller@ston	631-632-4318	Chuck Priore	Jeff Behrman	Jyle Hemphill	Steve Pikiell	Caroline McCombe	FULFILLED	RESPONDED		
9	FALSE	FALSE	Lisa Champagne	lisa.champagne@u	802-656-1818				John Baker	Lori Gear McBride	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
10	FALSE	FALSE	Andy Seeley	aseeley@athletics.u	407-823-2729	George O'Leary	Brent Key	Chuck Bresnahan	Donnie Jones	Joi Williams	FILED	FILED		
11	FALSE	FALSE	Ryan Koslen	ryan.koslen@uc.ec	513-497-3132	Tommy Tuberville	Eddie Gran	Steven Clinkscale	Mick Cronin	Jamelle Elliott	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
12	FALSE	FALSE	Mike Enright	mike.enright@ucor	860-486-5085	Bob Diaco	Frank Verducci	Anthony Poindexter	Kevin Ollie	Geno Auremma	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
13	FALSE	FALSE	Tom McClellan	mcclellant@ecu.ed	252-737-1274	Ryan McNeill	Dave Nichol	Rick Smith	Jeff Lebo	Heather Macy	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
14	FALSE	FALSE	David Bassity	dbassity@central.u	713-743-9404	Tom Herman	Major Applewhite	Todd Orlando	Kelvin Sampson	Ronald Hughey	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
15	FALSE	FALSE	Ron Mears	rmears@memphis.	901-678-2397	Justin Fuente	Darrell Dickey	Galen Scott	Josh Pastner	Melissa McFerrin	FILED	FILED		
16	FALSE	FALSE	Brian Siegrist	siegrist@usf.edu	813-974-4086	Willie Taggart	Danny Hope/David	Tom Allen	Orlando Antigua	Jose Fernandez	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
17	FALSE	FALSE	Larry Dougherty	larry.dougherty@te	215-204-2588	Matt Rhule	Marcus Satterfield	Phil Snow	Fran Dunphy	Tonya Cardoza	DENIED	DENIED		
18	FALSE	FALSE	Maureen Masser	mnasser@gru.edu	703-993-4400				Dave Paulson	Nyla Milesen	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
19	FALSE	FALSE	John Sinnett	jsinnett@admin.un	413-545-1744	Mark Whipple	Mike Cassano	Tom Masella	Derek Kellogg	Sharon Dawley	FULFILLED	FULFILLED	YES, not \$	
20	FALSE	FALSE	Mike Laprey	mlaprey@mail.uri	401-874-2401	Jim Fleming	Bill Bleil	Pete Rekstis	Don Hurley	Daynia La-Force	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
21	FALSE	FALSE	Scott Day	sdday@vcu.edu	804-828-1727				Will Wade	Beth O'Boyle	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
22	TRUE	FALSE	Tim Bourmet	btimoth@clemson	864-656-1926	Dabo Swinney	Tony Elliott/Jeff So	Marion Hobby	Brad Brownell	Audra Smith	NOT APPLICABLE	FULFILLED		
23	TRUE	FALSE	Elliott Finebloom	efinebloom@fsu.e	850-644-1065	Jimbo Fisher	Lawrence Dawsey	Charles Kelly	Leonard Hamilton	Sue Semrau	NOT APPLICABLE	FILED		
24	TRUE	FALSE	Chris Yandle	cyandle@athletics	404-894-6283	Paul Johnson	Bryan Cook	Ted Roof	Brian Gregory	MaChelle Joseph	NOT APPLICABLE	FULFILLED		
25	TRUE	FALSE	Kenny Klein	kenny@gocards.co	502-852-0112	Bobby Petrino	Garrick McGee	Todd Grantham	Rick Pitino	Jeff Walz	NOT APPLICABLE	RESPONDED		YE
26	TRUE	FALSE	Steve Kirschner	skirschner@unca	919-962-7258	Larry Fedora	Gunter Brewer/Chr	Gene Chizik	Roy Williams	Sylvia Hatchell	NOT APPLICABLE	FULFILLED		
27	TRUE	FALSE	Annabelle Myers	annabelle_myers@	(919) 515-1181	Dave Doeren	Matt Canada	Dave Huxtable	Mark Gottfried	Wes Moore	NOT APPLICABLE	FULFILLED		
28	TRUE	FALSE	E.J. Borghetti	eborghetti@athlet	412-648-8240	Pat Narduzzi	Jim Chaney	Josh Conklin	Jamie Dixon	Suzie McConnell-S	NOT APPLICABLE	DENIED		
29	TRUE	FALSE	Dirk Katstra	dpk4f@virginia.ed	434-982-5555	Mike London	Steve Fairchild	Jon Tenuta	Tony Bennett	Joanne Boyle	NOT APPLICABLE	FULFILLED		
30	TRUE	FALSE	Tim East	easttim@vt.edu	540-231-6600	Frank Beamer	Scot Loeffler	Bud Foster	Buzz Williams	Dennis Wolff	NOT APPLICABLE			
31	FALSE	FALSE	Jason MacBain	jmacbain@fgcu.ed	239-590-7061				Joe Dooley	Karl Smesko	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
32	FALSE	FALSE	Al Barba	abarba@kennesaw	470-578-7837				Al Skinner	Nitra Perry	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
33	FALSE	FALSE	Brad Pope	popes4@nku.edu	(859) 572-5747				John Brannen	Dawn Plitzuweit	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
34	FALSE	FALSE	Brian Morgan	b.morgan@unf.edu	904-620-4027				Matthew Driscoll	Darrick Gibbs	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
35	FALSE	FALSE	Bill English	benglish@uscupst	864-503-5129				Eddie Payne	Tammy George	FULFILLED	FULFILLED		
36	TRUE	FALSE	Steve Malchow	sdm@lastate.edu	(515) 294-5095	Paul Rhodes	Mark Mangino	Wally Burnham	Neil Berry	Josh Carper				
37	TRUE	FALSE	Jim Marchiony	jmarch@ku.edu	785-864-3359	David Beaty	Rob Likens	Clint Bowen	Bill Self	Brandon Schneide	DENIED	FULFILLED		

Impact

Georgia Regents cap student funding of athletic programs

LOCAL EDUCATION By **Janel Davis** - The Atlanta Journal-Constitution



Posted: 5:50 p.m. Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Georgia State University would have to cut the amount of student fees and tuition that fund its athletic programs by about \$700,000, according to a new policy adopted by the state's Board of Regents on Tuesday.

The Regents set limits on the amount of money from student fees and tuition that can go toward athletic programs at the state's public colleges and universities. The cap will be between 65 percent and 85 percent of the athletic budget at most schools, depending on each school's athletic association.

The **new rules come as a national review of the high cost of athletics** at some schools has led to debate about rising college costs and whether students get a good return on their investment when they foot the bill for sports. The goal is for Georgia colleges to seek money for sports through fundraising and other revenue sources beyond what students pay.

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Popular

The new rules also cap growth in athletics expenses at 5 percent a year



Impact

The \$10 Billion Sports Tab

Data Journalism



Source: The Chronicle of Higher Education

SANDHYA KAMBHAMPATI AND BRAD WOLVERTON | THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION | BEN HALLMAN AND SHANE SHIFFLETT | THE HUFFINGTON POST

The \$10 billion sports tab: How college students are funding the athletics arms race.

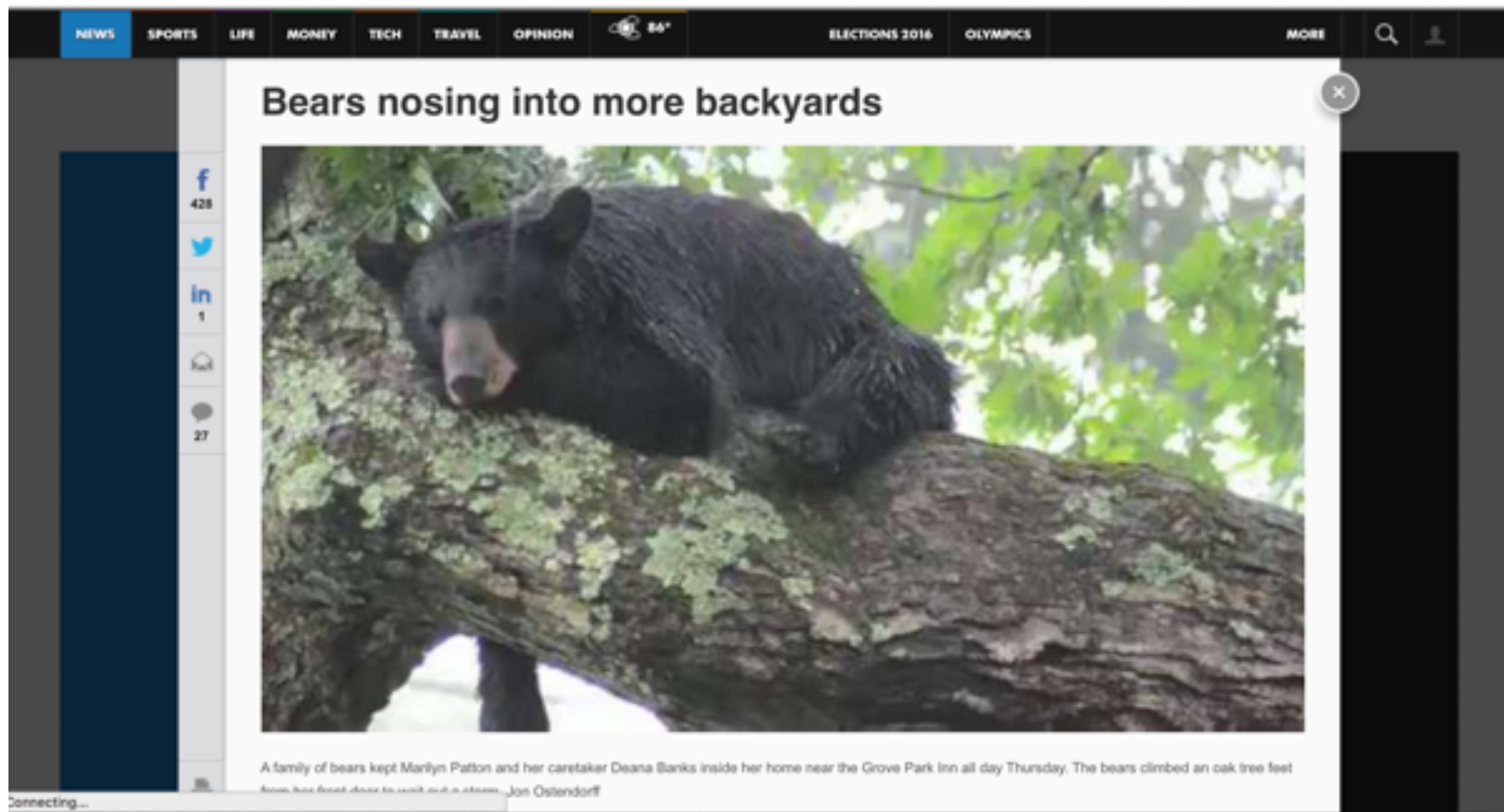
- [The \\$10 Billion Sports Tab](#)
- [The Subsidy Gap](#)

Comments from the Judges:

"This was a tricky subject because it was pretty dense: Subsidies for athletics. But the reporters here did a bang-up job of pulling together data from various sources and laying out exactly why we should care. As is typical with most Chronicle stories, the storytelling here was just as fantastic. And it properly conveyed the injustice that is not making poor kids more of a priority. Great job."

"An excellent piece of work that takes on a serious subject and delivers a piece of work no one else thought about. The quality of reporting is solid and fair and told a story cleanly. The research was compelling, as it was not sorted from only one database. It explained the issues quickly and clearly."

Fun FOI story



<http://usat.ly/2cnl2G5>

@sandhya__k

And a bonus

Thank you! Questions?

Tweet: @sandhya__k
sandhya.kambhampati@correctiv.org