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# News Release



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## **GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WILL MAKE ERIC REPORTS AVAILABLE ONLINE**

The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), the National Library of Education (NLE), and the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) are cooperating in a pilot project to make public domain reports from the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) available to libraries online, without charge, through the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP).

The FDLP/ERIC Digital Library Pilot Project, currently in its preliminary phase, will give participants information on managing a large, high-demand collection of full-text documents in an electronic environment.

ERIC is a federally-funded national information system that provides, through its 16 subject-specific clearinghouses, associated adjunct clearinghouses and support components, a variety of services and products on a broad range of education-related issues.

The National Library of Education (NLE) is the largest federally-funded library devoted entirely to education. It is the Federal Government's principal center for one-stop information and referral on education.

OCLC Online Computer Library Center is a nonprofit, membership, computer library service and research organization whose computer network and services link more than 25,000 libraries in 63 countries and territories.

"GPO is deeply committed to providing leadership in the transition of Government information to electronic form," said Public Printer of the United States Michael F. DiMario, head of the Government Printing Office. "The FDLP/ERIC Digital Library Pilot Project is an exciting model partnership that will not only provide a popular series of reports electronically, but can lead the way for other government agencies and the library community in making electronic government information more accessible through the FDLP."

The FDLP/ERIC Digital Library Pilot Project is one of several GPO partnership arrangements that match government information producers with library and other institutional resources for electronic storage, dissemination, and access. "Partnerships are a key element to

stable, long-term access to electronic government information,” said Superintendent of Documents Francis Buckley. “They build on the successful model of cooperation between GPO and local libraries for dissemination of and public access to government information.”

“The National Library of Education is excited about a new project that will provide quality ERIC reports to greater numbers of people, thus making education information more accessible,” said Blane K. Dessy, Director, National Library of Education. “The library is very pleased to work with OCLC and GPO on this new venture.”

The electronically-stored ERIC reports will be accessible to libraries in the FDLP through the OCLC FirstSearch service, the online reference service designed for library users, and will be available free of charge through Federal Depository Libraries.

GPO prints and distributes the publications of the Congress, the judiciary, and the executive departments and establishments of the Federal Government. The FDLP provides government publications and government information to a network of nearly 1,400 geographically dispersed libraries for comprehensive, equitable, dependable no-fee local access. Distribution is being accomplished on an increasing basis via GPO’s online information service, GPO Access, at [www.access.gpo.gov](http://www.access.gpo.gov). Nearly 10.5 million documents are electronically retrieved by the public from this service every month.