

What is a mobile app?

An app, short for “application,” is a tool that helps you accomplish a task or find information. Mobile apps are optimized for a mobile device experience, with easier navigation and formatted to a smaller screen such as a smartphone or tablet (e.g. Android, Blackberry, iOS). Apps are often tailored for specific purposes, allowing for a focused and streamlined user experience. Some can be accessed using your device’s web browser (mobile web apps), while others need to be downloaded to your phone (native apps). To date, GPO’s mobile apps are all mobile web apps, though in the future we may also distribute native apps through their respective app markets.

How much do apps cost?

GPO’s Mobile Member Guide and Budget app are free to the public, though data charges from your cell phone carrier may apply.

How do I access other government apps?

For more applications offered by the Federal government or using government data, see GSA’s <http://apps.usa.gov/> site

What are GPO’s plans for future mobile apps?

We are evaluating a few other app ideas and discussing with our Congressional and other stakeholders, including OFR, to determine priorities for new apps.

Can the Mobile Member Guide app access my personal information?

No, the Mobile Members’ guide does not access or store any personal information on your device.


What platforms are supported for the Mobile Members’ guide available?

GPO’s mobile web apps are accessible on major mobile platforms and Webkit-based browsers and do not need to be downloaded from an app store. They have been tested to support iOS devices running 4.3.3 and above, Android phones running Android 2.1 and above and Blackberry phones running version 6.0 and above. Other devices using Webkit-based browsers may be supported, but have not been tested.

How do I add the Mobile Members Guide app to my homescreen?

1. Go to <http://m.gpo.gov/memborguide/> or <http://m.gpo.gov/budget> on your mobile device.
2. Follow the instructions below for your specific device or operating system

iPad/iPhone (<http://www.apple.com/iphone/tips/>)


1. Visit the page in Safari and tap the Go To icon  in the Safari window.
2. Tap Add to Home Screen.
3. (optional) Rename the icon
4. Click Save.

Android (Stock Browser)

1. Bookmark the page you want to add to a Home screen
2. Open the browser “bookmarks” screen
3. Long-press the bookmark you want
4. Select “Add to Home screen”

Blackberry OS 6.0, 7.0 (http://docs.blackberry.com/en/smartphone_users/deliverables/32046/Add_a_shortcut_to_the_Home_screen_61_1509521_11.jsp)

You can add a shortcut to give yourself quick access to items such as frequently used websites, contacts, applications, files, podcast channels, or media categories.

1. Browse to a website, or highlight the item that you want to create a shortcut for.
2. Press the  key > Add to Home Screen.
 - o To change the name of the shortcut, type a new name.
 - o To change the location where the shortcut appears, change the Location field.
 - o To add the shortcut to your Favorites panel, select the Mark as Favorite checkbox.
3. Click Add.

Whom do I contact if I have problems with an app?

If you have problems accessing any of GPO’s mobile web apps on your supported mobile device, please contact GPO at pmo@gpo.gov.