

Free & Low-Cost Legal Resources

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Research Guides

Available through most academic law libraries

Search different schools for specializations (e.g. Tarlton for Texas law, Boston College for Mass.)

Address:

- Tarlton Law Library: <https://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/research-tools/research-guides>
- Boston College: <http://lawguides.bc.edu/>
- UCLA Law: <http://libguides.law.ucla.edu/>
- And many more...

Zimmerman's

Broad, shallow coverage

Address: <https://law.lexisnexis.com/infopro/zimmermans/>

Low Cost Paid Sources

FastCase

Coverage of Primary law and limited secondary sources. Coverage may change with the acquisition of Loislaw. Includes access to a basic citator.

Address: <https://www.fastcase.com/>

CaseMaker

Coverage of primary law, selected secondary sources and some CLE materials. Includes access to a basic citator.

Address: <http://www.casemaker.us/>

Loislaw

A la carte purchase of materials including Wolters Kluwer Treatises. Recently acquired by FastCase.

Address: <http://estore.loislaw.com/>

Primary Law – Regulations

Federalregister.gov

Interactive version of the Federal Register with links to authenticated PDFs of material.

Address: <https://www.federalregister.gov/>

FDsys

Provides free online access to authenticated copies of U.S. Government publications. Including the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations.

Address: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/>

E-CFR

An updated copy of the CFR that incorporates changes from the Federal Register. Note that this is **not** an official legal edition but can be useful for research.

Address: <http://www.ecfr.gov/>

Primary Law - Cases

Case law can be found through many sources including Google Scholar and court websites. Paid services such as FastCase and Casemaker also offer case law. However, most case law can be found for free with a little effort. Google Scholar (above) provides good access to case law, and in addition individual state courts may provide access to opinions. Once you've found a case, ensure that it still good law by using a citator and by reviewing the opinions that cite it.

Business Research

1. **Industry Research**
 - a. **Free Resources**
 - i. Industry Statistics Portal from the US Census Bureau: Collection of Census Bureau data for industries
 - ii. Trade Stats Express from the International Trade Administration (Department of Commerce): National trade data and state export data
 - iii. Bureau of Labor Statistics by Industry: Labor and employment data
 - b. **Best Resources**
 - i. IBISWorld: Largest collection of industry profiles
 - ii. MarketLine Advantage: Industry profiles, including foreign profiles
 - iii. Mintel: Market research and insight
2. **Business Research**
 - a. **Free Resources**
 - i. **Yahoo! Finance:** Excellent basic company profiles
 - ii. **EDGAR:** Includes all electronic SEC filings
 1. Drawbacks: Limited searching, including only four years of full text search
 - iii. **Investor Relations pages:** Easy access to individual company filings
 - b. **Best Resources**
 - i. **SEC Filings**
 1. Lexis Securities Mosaic
 2. Bloomberg Law
 - ii. **Company Profiles**
 1. Traditional resources: Hoover's and D&B
 2. Best resources: Bloomberg and Factiva
 3. Private company resources: Marketline Advantage, Mergent Online, referenceUSA, Privco, and S&P Capital IQ

Additional Research Sources

1. **Industry code conversion:** Consolidates information from all over the web regarding different code conversions.
<http://www.maclester.edu/research/economics/PAGE/HAVEMAN/Trade.Resources/TradeConcordances.html>
2. **Researching Public Companies Through EDGAR – A Guide for Investors:** Thorough guide from the SEC on how to use EDGAR and where to find particular types of information. <http://www.sec.gov/investor/pubs/edgarguide.htm>

