

The Bureaucracy

Department of State (1789)

Manages the nation's foreign policy and relationships with other countries.

Department of the Treasury (1789)

Oversees the country's money, taxes, and financial systems.

Department of War (1789) renamed as Department of Defense (1949)

Manages the Armed Forces.

Department of Justice (1870)

Enforces federal laws and represents the U.S. in legal matters.

Department of the Interior (1849)

Manages and protects the nation's public lands and natural resources.

Department of Agriculture (1889)

Supports farmers and ensures food safety and nutrition.

Department of Commerce (1903)

Promotes economic growth, trade, and technology.

Department of Labor (1913)

Protects workers' rights and helps improve working conditions.

Department of Health and Human Services (1953)

Oversees public health, healthcare, and welfare programs.

Department of Housing and Urban Development (1965)

Handles the special needs and problems of cities.

Department of Transportation (1966)

Manages highways, air travel, and transportation safety.

Department of Energy (1979)

Oversees energy production and nuclear safety.

Department of Education (1979)

Supports schools and ensures equal access to education.

Department of Veterans Affairs (1989)

Provides services and benefits to military veterans.

Department of Homeland Security (2002)

Protects the U.S. from terrorism and responds to national emergencies.