

The Job of the Vice President

Washington Chronicle

HELP WANTED

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA SEEKS

Vice President

AS THE SECOND IN COMMAND, YOU WILL:

Duties

- ☆ Serve as acting president in the event of the president's death, disability, or retirement
- ☆ Help determine if the president is unable to perform his duties because of illness
- ☆ Serve as president of the Senate and vote there in the event of a tie
- ☆ Serve as a diplomatic envoy and symbol for the U.S.; represent the president at home and abroad
- ☆ Speak around the nation in support of the decisions and policies of the president
- ☆ Serve as a policy advisor on the National Security Council and sit in on meetings with other advisory committees of the president

Qualifications

- ☆ Must be a natural-born citizen
- ☆ Must be at least 35 years old
- ☆ Must have lived in the U.S. for at least 14 years

Salary and Benefits

- ☆ \$192,600/year, non-negotiable
- ☆ \$10,000/year for expenses relating to official duties
- ☆ Pension for you and spouse varies according to cost of living
- ☆ Free office space and mailing services
- ☆ Use of Air Force Two, helicopters, limousines
- ☆ Residence on the grounds of the Naval Academy
- ☆ Free medical and dental care

Duration of Position

- ☆ Position lasts four years, after which you may reapply if president selects you
- ☆ Maximum of two full terms
- ☆ In the event of a president's death or resignation, you will succeed the president and serve the rest of that term; you may run for an additional two terms as president, for a total of no more than ten years.

Vice Presidents Who Assumed the Presidency

Vice President

John Tyler
Millard Fillmore
Andrew Johnson
Chester A. Arthur
Theodore Roosevelt
Calvin Coolidge
Harry Truman
Lyndon B. Johnson
Gerald R. Ford

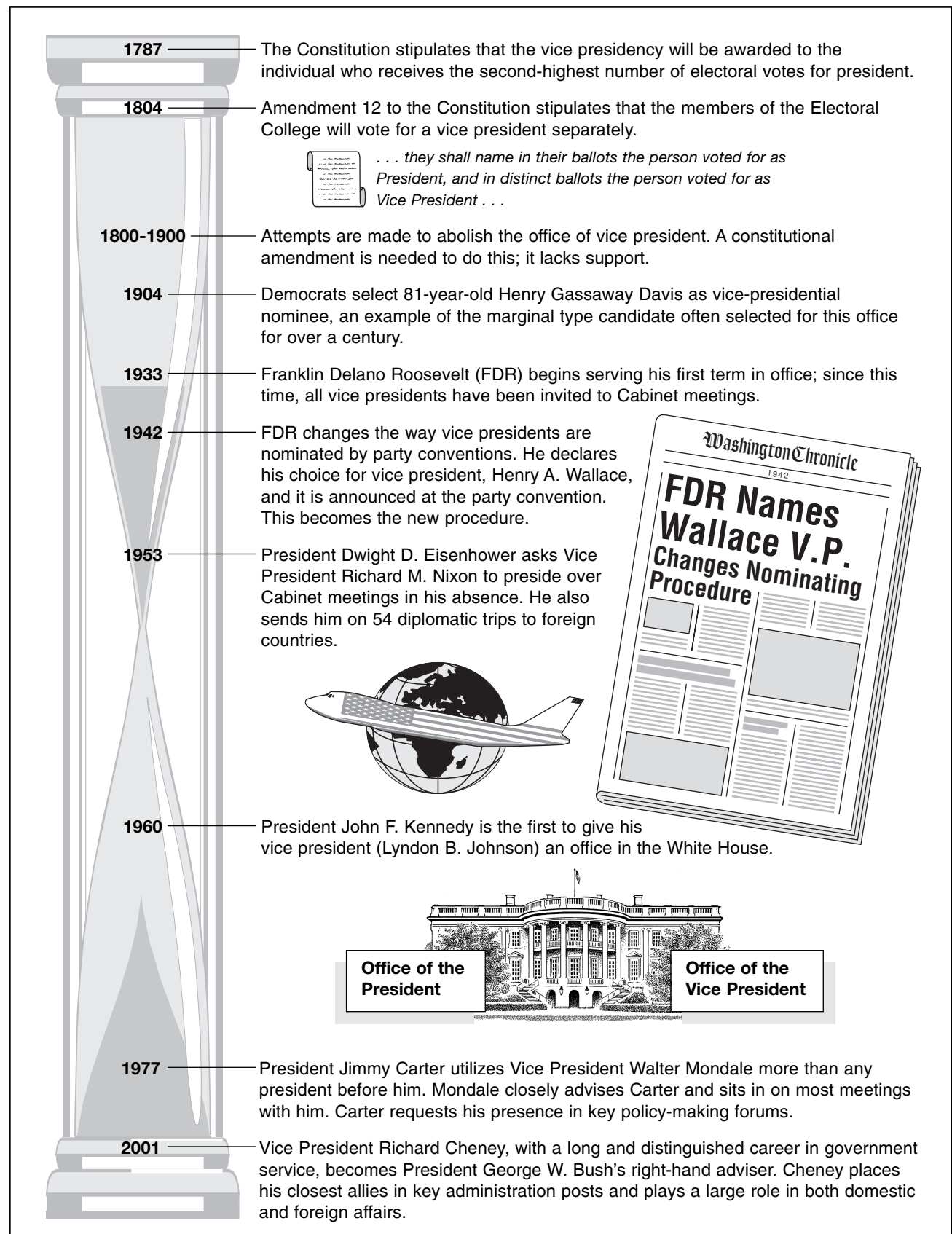
Who Succeeded

William H. Harrison
Zachary Taylor
Abraham Lincoln
James A. Garfield
William McKinley
Warren G. Harding
Franklin D. Roosevelt
John F. Kennedy
Richard M. Nixon

Year Assumed Presidency

1841
1850
1865
1881
1901
1923
1945
1963
1974

Development of the Vice Presidency



The Cabinet

The Constitution does not mention a Cabinet, nor did Congress create it. However, since the presidency is so broad in scope, the president needs advice and help performing his duties. Having a Cabinet began with George Washington's first presidency.

Responsibilities are split among separate departments (treasury, defense, etc.) and Cabinet heads, called secretaries, are appointed to lead those departments. They advise the president and help to direct federal government policy in their particular area of concern.



The term "cabinet" was coined by newspaper reporters during the presidency of George Washington.

President's Relationship with the Cabinet

Each president has treated his Cabinet differently.

No president has eliminated the Cabinet, but some have selected their own group of informal advisors.

Andrew Jackson was famous for his "Kitchen Cabinet," composed of a group of his close friends.

Two Presidents' Views of the Cabinet

President George Washington



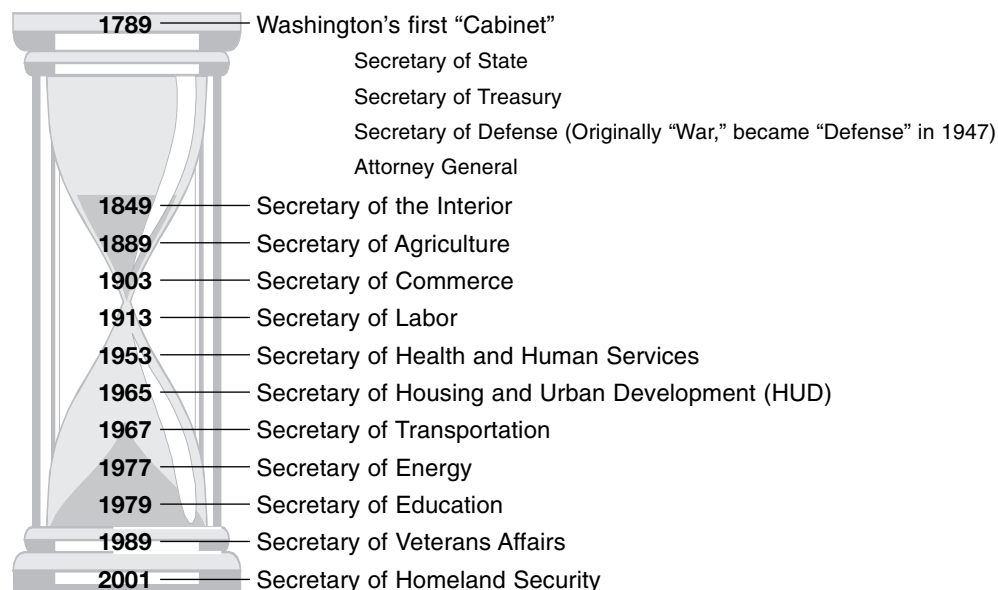
The impossibility that one man should . . . perform all the great business of state I take to have been the reason for instituting the great departments, and appointing officers therein to assist the supreme magistrate in discharging the duties of his trust.

President William H. Taft



The Constitution . . . contains no suggestion of a meeting of all of the department heads in consultation over general government matters. The Cabinet is a mere creation of the President's will. It exists only by custom. If the President desired to dispense with it, he could do so.

When Cabinet Positions Were Created



The Job of Cabinet Members

Washington Chronicle

HELP WANTED

P R E S I D E N T O F T H E U N I T E D S T A T E S S E E K S

Cabinet Members

A S A M E M B E R O F T H E P R E S I D E N T ' S I N N E R C I R C L E , Y O U W I L L :

Duties

- ☆ Serve as administrative head of an executive department
- ☆ Serve as one of the president's important advisors

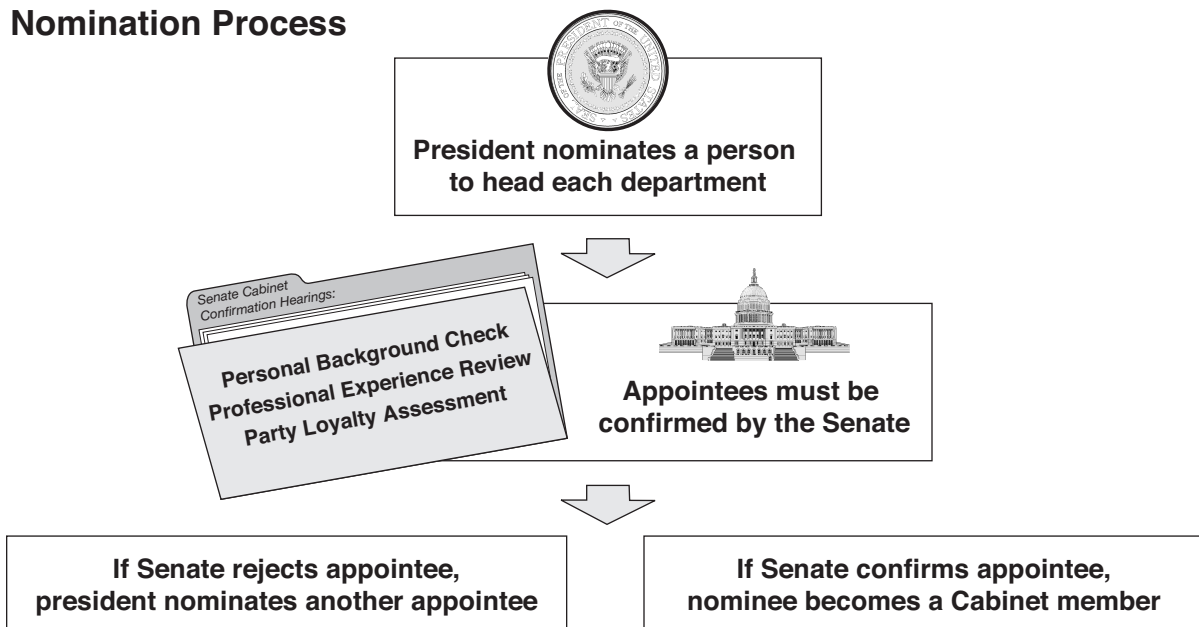
Qualifications

- ☆ You must have administrative skills and experience in the department you will direct.
- ☆ You must usually be of the same political party as the president.
- ☆ You must be acceptable to interest groups that have a strong stake in your department.
- ☆ You will be given preference if you played a major role in the president's election campaign.
- ☆ Your chances are improved if you come from a geographically important area.
- ☆ Your race, sex, and ethnic background are important factors in today's political climate.
The U.S. is an equal opportunity employer.

Salary and Benefits

- ☆ \$171,900/year, non-negotiable; generous benefits package

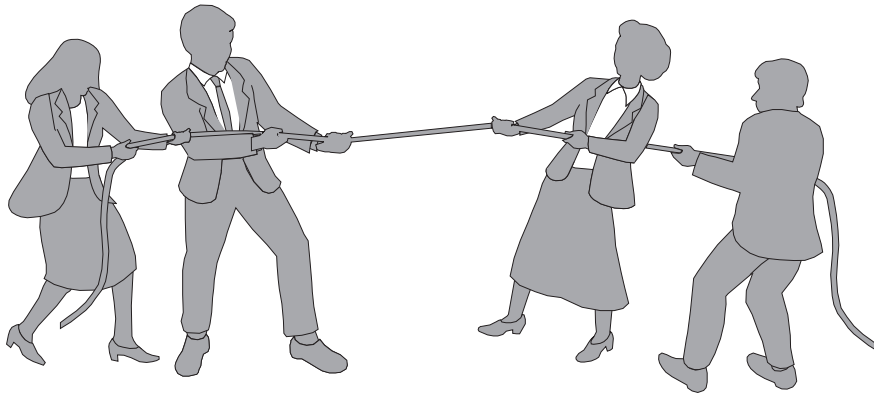
Nomination Process



Limitations of the Cabinet

Limitations on Cabinet Function

Cabinet members enjoy unique access to the president, yet there are also factors that limit their abilities and influence.



Conflicting Interests

Department secretaries are under pressure from Congress members, special-interest groups, and career members of their own departments to pursue policies not necessarily consistent with the president's agenda.

Disagreement among Cabinet members because of loyalties to their own departments creates rivalries and tension in Cabinet sessions.

However



Those Cabinet members who deal with the president's greatest interests and concerns will also have greater influence and access to the president. The secretaries of state, defense, and treasury tend to have the most frequent contact with the president.



Lack of Trust

Presidents often don't know their Cabinet appointees personally and therefore feel they can't trust them with sensitive matters requiring complete discretion.

Cabinet members may be reluctant to provide frank advice or to openly disagree with the president for fear that such moves would be received badly. This can make for an atmosphere of distrust.

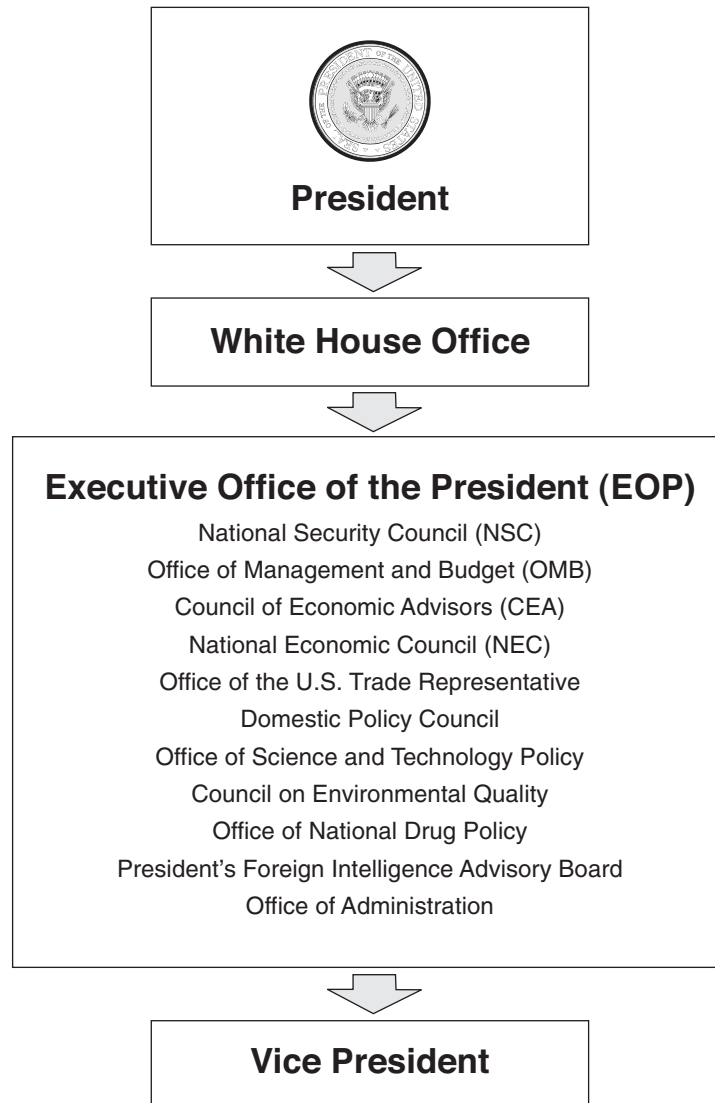
However



Individuals whom the president views as loyal and able often gain access to the president's inner circle.

White House Organization

The White House is organized in two levels: the White House Office, which contains the president's personal staff, and the Executive Office of the President (EOP), which contains specialized offices that give advice and support.



White House Office

The White House staff is appointed solely by the president.

Appointees are not subject to Congressional confirmation.

White House staff members have no government status or tenure; they can be dismissed at any time.

The president may change the job description of any office at any time.

Location of a staff member's office in relation to the president's office is crucial to gaining presidential access.

Styles of White House Management

Different presidents have structured and run their White House Offices with very different styles. Some White Houses have been rigidly structured, others have been quite unstructured, and some have fallen in between. Two major management styles are presented below:



Structured

Examples:

Dwight D. Eisenhower, Richard M. Nixon

Large staff (Nixon had 600 staffers).

President appoints chief of staff.

Chief of staff hands out assignments to staff.

Chief of staff, often called the “gatekeeper,” determines which staff members gain access to president. Clear chain of command, with control at the top.

Staff members tend to develop expertise in their areas, especially at lower levels of the hierarchy.

Interaction between president and staff members is limited, sometimes leaving staff isolated.



Unstructured

Examples:

John F. Kennedy, Franklin D. Roosevelt

Small staff (Roosevelt had only 50).

President serves as chief of staff.

Staff members report directly to president.

All staff members have direct access to president.

Same assignments are often given to different staff members to avoid having one person with all the expertise in a given area.

Several channels of information are open to president on any given issue.

Executive Office of the President: National Security Council

The National Security Council was created by Congress in 1947 to serve as an advisory board to the president on military and foreign matters and to coordinate military and foreign policy. The NSC was established because many in Congress felt that Franklin Roosevelt had overstepped his powers in personally directing the nation's military strategy during World War II. The NSC would ensure that future presidents would be provided with a wider range of views on military and diplomatic matters.

Makeup of the NSC

The NSC is composed of four members and three advisors.

The members are

President
Vice President
Secretary of State
Secretary of Defense

The advisors are

Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff
Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency

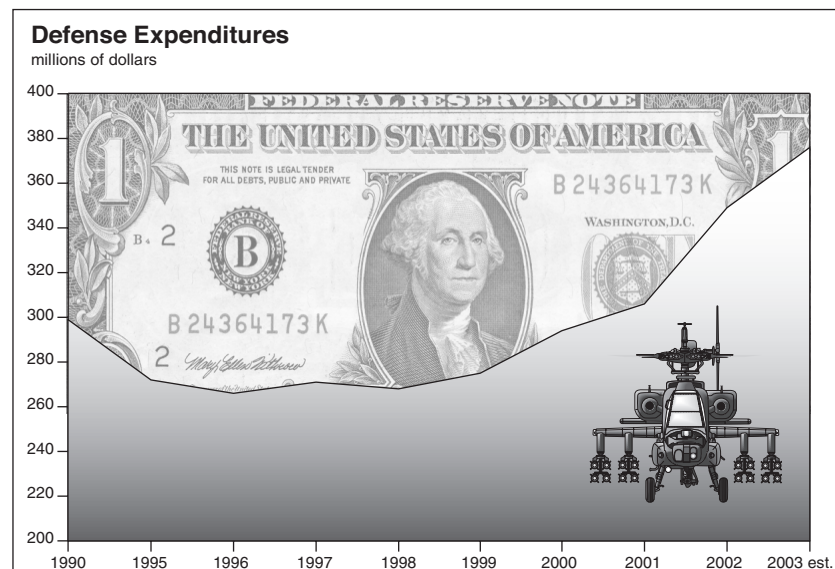
Role of the NSC

The NSC advises the president on foreign, domestic, or military matters that affect the nation's security. When necessary, meets on short notice.

Issues to be addressed by the council are first brought before one of the three senior groups chaired by a member of the NSC.

NSC advisors work under the president's national security advisor; additional advisors may be appointed as a president sees fit.

The NSC does not come under legislative oversight. The improper activities of the Reagan Administration's NSC in the Iran-Contra Affair resulted in a reduction of its role in foreign policy.



Defense

Expenditures:

(millions of dollars)

1990	299,331
1995	272,066
1996	265,753
1997	270,505
1998	268,456
1999	274,873
2000	294,495
2001	305,500
2002	348,555
2003 est.	376,286

The NSC's major concern is national defense. Recent changes in the country's defense expenditures are shown here.

Executive Office of the President: Office of Management and Budget

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is the largest agency in the executive office of the president. It was created in 1921 as the Bureau of the Budget, and was renamed in 1970 by President Richard Nixon. As redesigned by Nixon, the OMB had much more power.

Makeup of the OMB

The director of the OMB is a presidential counselor and has an office in the West Wing of the White House.

As of 1973, the OMB director and deputy director must receive Senate confirmation.

Role of the OMB

Assists the president in drawing up the annual budget he submits to Congress

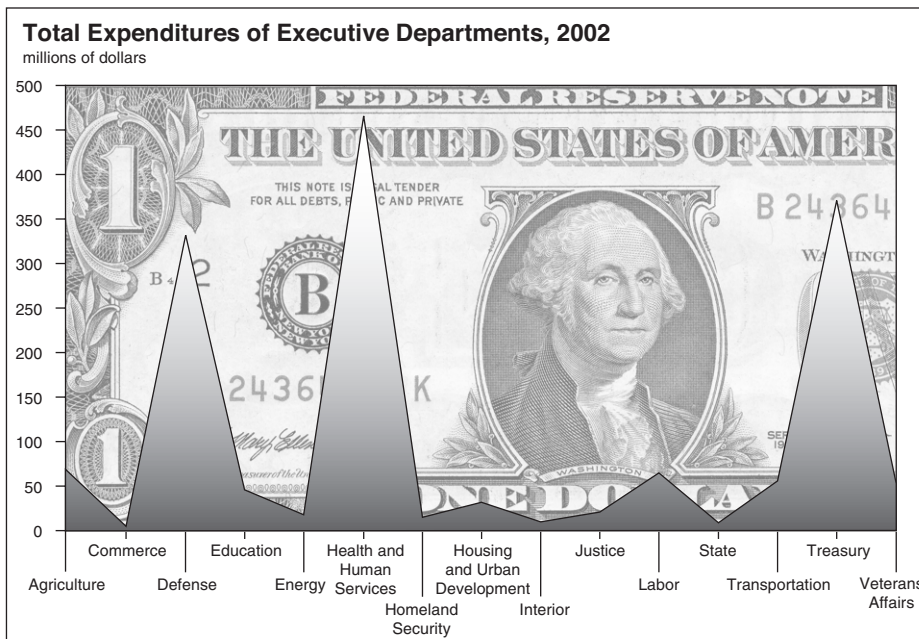
1. Each federal agency prepares detailed estimates of its spending needs for the fiscal year.
2. The OMB holds budget hearings at which the agencies' officials defend their budget requests.
3. Following a review, requests are usually reduced and worked into the president's budget.

Acts as a clearinghouse for legislation sponsored by various executive departments to see that no legislation conflicts with policy objectives of the president. This function is known as "central clearance."

Monitors the implementation of presidential programs by making formal studies of the executive departments to ensure that they are administered economically and efficiently

Keeps the president up to date on the work of all of its agencies

Helps the president prepare the executive orders he must issue and the occasional vetoes he must send to Congress



Total Expenditures of Executive Departments, 2002
(millions of dollars)

Agriculture	68,731
Commerce	5,314
Defense	331,951
Education	46,282
Energy	17,681
Health and Human Services	465,812
Homeland Security	17,476
Housing and Urban Development	31,885
Interior	9,739
Justice	21,112
Labor	64,704
State	9,453
Transportation	56,104
Treasury	370,558
Veterans Affairs	50,884

One of the OMB's primary functions is to monitor the economic efficiency of the executive departments. Shown here are the 1995 expenditures of these departments.

Executive Office of the President: Economic Agencies

The Council of Economic Advisors (CEA) was established under a provision of the Federal Employment Act of 1946. That provision was passed in response to the belief that the president needed expert advice on economic matters, such as employment, tax policy, and inflation. While the Council on Economic Advisors is a part of the EOP, it is considered a Cabinet-level office. It offers objective economic analysis to the president and has no policy-making function, unlike the National Economic Council (see below).

Makeup of the CEA

The president may appoint three members to the Council of Economic Advisors.

Each of these must receive Senate approval.

CEA staff consists of 60 economists, political scientists, and attorneys.

Role of the CEA

Assesses the nation's economic health

Predicts future economic conditions

Aids other executive agencies in financial planning

Develops solutions for specific problems in the economy

Helps president prepare his annual economic report to Congress

Reports to Congress periodically

National Economic Council

The National Economic Council was established by President Bill Clinton at the beginning of his first term in January 1993. Unlike the CEA, the NEC makes direct policy recommendations to the president.

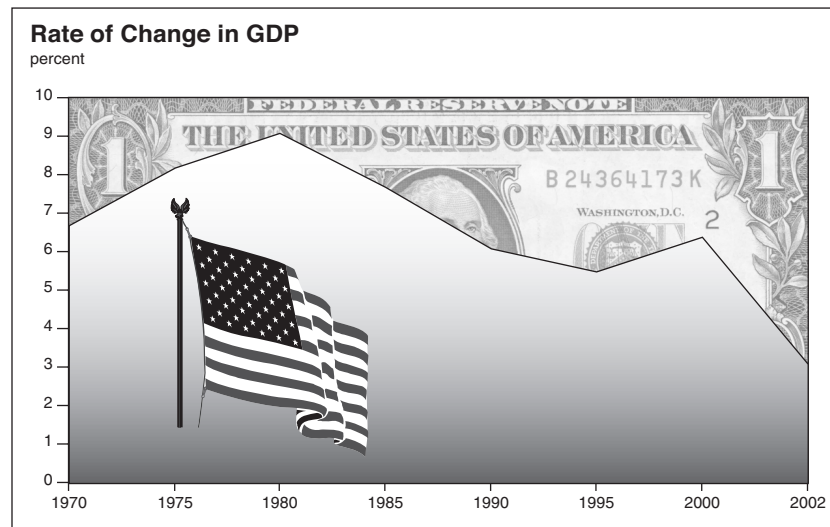
Role of the NEC

Coordination of economic policy-making relating to domestic and international economic issues

Coordination of economic policy recommendations to the president

Monitoring the consistency of economic policy decisions and programs with declared goals

Monitoring the execution of the president's economic policy agenda



One of the most important duties of the CEA is monitoring the country's economic performance, which is frequently measured by the growth of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Analysis of the country's economic growth is also a concern of the NEC, which uses such analysis in its policy-making functions.

Executive Office of the President: Other Agencies

Other agencies of the Executive Office of the President (EOP) are listed below. Different presidents use the agencies in different ways. Often new presidents will add their own agencies depending on the issues that are considered important at the time, as President George W. Bush did with the Office of National AIDs Policy and Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board

Oversees the quality of the country's intelligence-gathering capacities. Advises the president on legal issues relating to foreign intelligence activities.

Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

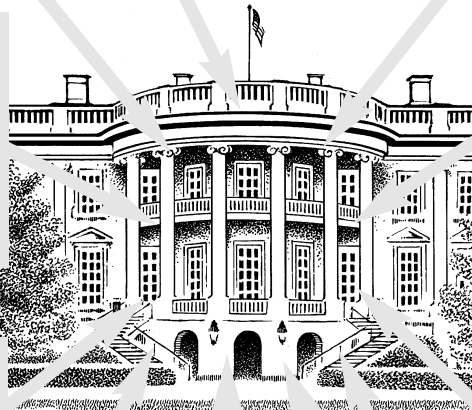
A new office established by President George W. Bush to support his efforts to increase the role of privately funded religious and community organizations in addressing social concerns of the country.

Office of National AIDS Policy

A new office established by President George W. Bush to coordinate initiatives to reduce HIV infections domestically and internationally, and to support care and treatment of people with HIV/AIDS.

Domestic Policy Council

Advises the president on all matters of domestic concern. Deputy assistant to the president on domestic policy is head of this office.



Office of U.S. Trade Representative

Advises the president on all matters relating to trade with other nations. Helps negotiate trade agreements with other nations.

Office of National Drug Control Policy

Oversees the nation's drug control policies. Helps to coordinate drug control policies of various agencies.

Office of Science and Technology Policy

Advises the president on all scientific and technological matters that bear on the nation's programs and policies.

Office of Administration

Provides support to other agencies. Staff does not need Senate confirmation.

Office of Global Communications

A new office established by President George W. Bush to oversee and coordinate international communications that strategically serve the nation's interests, and to give an honest portrayal of U.S. activities and policies.

Council on Environmental Quality

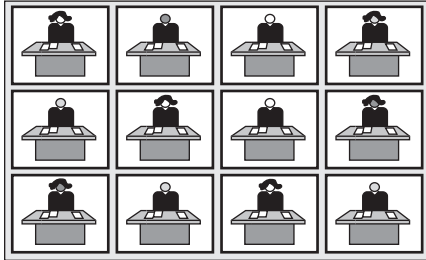
Advises the president on all matters concerning environmental quality. Helps the president prepare a "state of the environment" report for Congress each year.

White House Military Office

Officially part of the Executive Office of the President, this office provides representation of the military in the office of the president and helps address the president's military needs and concerns.

Civil Service and the Federal Bureaucracy

Characteristics of the Federal Bureaucracy



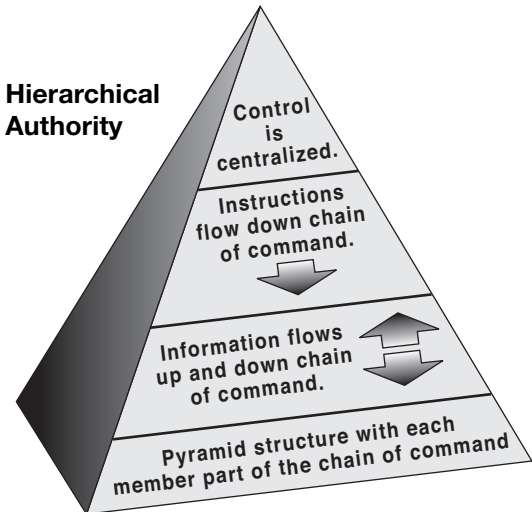
Specialization

Labor is clearly divided among workers.

Each bureaucrat becomes an expert in a specific area.

Each of the 2.8 million bureaucrats has a specific job description.

Hierarchical Authority



Record Keeping and Rules

Detailed records are maintained.

Changes in personnel do not affect the functioning of the bureaucracy.

Rules advise employees on what to do and not to do and provide stability in departments when personnel changes occur.

Scope of the Federal Bureaucracy

What we refer to as the federal bureaucracy is a collection of agencies charged with executing the laws of the country. Some organizational charts of the federal government show over 60 such agencies and commissions. President George W. Bush's White House lists 136 agencies and commissions under its auspices in its World Wide Web site (www.whitehouse.gov).

Some of the well-known agencies are:

Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)
Federal Election Commission (FEC)
Federal Emergency Management Fund (FEMA)
Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)
National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
Peace Corps
Small Business Administration (SBA)
U.S. Postal Service (USPS)

Development of the Civil Service System

