

How can I market a book to the U.S. Government Printing Office?

Q: I have a book I think the U.S. Government Printing Office would be interested in (an already published book). How do I go about marketing it to them?

The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) is a printer and distributor of government publications which come from a variety of government agencies, so it would not be appropriate to approach GPO directly with ideas or manuscripts.

To try to pursue writing projects for government agencies, you could check *Commerce Business Daily*, the magazine that lists government contract possibilities. You can also try contacting specific agencies you'd have an interest in writing for with ideas that relate to current policy issues. Keep in mind that these agencies generally publish non-fiction books and pamphlets in response to pre-determined needs rather than pursuing outside proposals. Some examples are, an environmental coloring book, or a comic book about "Saying no to drugs".

Samples of some government publications can be obtained by mail. For information on free and low-cost publications, you can write for a free copy of The General Services Administration's Consumer Information Catalog, c/o Consumer Information Center, Pueblo, CO 81002. For information on books sold by the U.S. Government Printing Office, write for: The U.S. Government Books Catalog, P.O. Box 37000, Washington, D.C. 20013. 6:7/94