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- Investigating potential fraud, waste, and improper activities
- Reporting on how well government programs and policies are meeting their objectives

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**Contact us to request GAO work or to speak with a GAO expert.** For general assistance, please contact our Office of Congressional Relations or any of our Congressional Relations Advisors by calling (202) 512-4400. You can also e-mail our staff at CongRel@GAO.gov.

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Welcome to the 116th Congress

GAO is here to help you. Here’s how to connect with us.

• **Sign up for a training or an information session.** GAO provides training to Congressional staff, such as on Appropriations law. Additionally, the House Learning Center and Senate Office Education offer a “GAO 101”.

• **Test drive our websites.** Check out our main website, www.gao.gov, and Watchdog, watchdog.gao.gov, a GAO site exclusively for Members and their staff.

• **Contact a GAO Congressional Relations Advisor.** An advisor is assigned as a liaison to each House and Senate Committee.

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- Senate Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions
- House Education and the Workforce
- House Ways and Means
- Joint Committee on Taxation

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- Senate Judiciary
- Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship
- Joint Economic Committee
- House Financial Services
- House Homeland Security
- House Judiciary
- House Small Business
- U. S. Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control

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- House Oversight and Government Reform
# REQUESTS TO GAO: PROCESS AND TIMING

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<td><strong>Send a request letter</strong> via e-mail to our Congressional Relations office. Requests from the chair or ranking member of a committee or subcommittee have priority. The topic should fall within the jurisdiction of their committee or subcommittee.</td>
<td><strong>GAO assembles the team</strong> and initiates the work. The timing of initiation depends on staff availability.</td>
<td>The team meets with GAO experts, stakeholders, and management to design an audit method—one that is fact-based and can support our findings and potential recommendations. This process typically takes about 3 months.</td>
<td>You can ask for a briefing on the status of our work or for preliminary findings at any point during our audit.</td>
<td><strong>We will send our draft report to the agencies we audited</strong> for comment. At this time, you will also receive an informational copy.</td>
<td>We typically issue the report about 14 days after receiving agency comments. We will contact you to confirm this date.</td>
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<td><strong>Our Congressional Relations office will let you know we have received your letter.</strong></td>
<td><strong>We will contact you within 20 days of initiating your job for additional information.</strong></td>
<td><strong>After the team has committed to an audit method, we will contact you to explain how we plan to answer your request.</strong></td>
<td>The only information about your request that we will share with others are the questions, scope, and methodology of the audit. If you want others to have access to briefings, they must formally become co-requesters.</td>
<td>Agencies get up to a month to review and respond to our findings and recommendations.</td>
<td>When a report is issued, the original requester(s) (but not co-requesters) can restrict its public release of the report for up to 30 days.</td>
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<td><strong>If we accept your request, we will e-mail a letter telling you who you can contact and when we expect to start work.</strong></td>
<td>We will tell you when we think we can deliver a finished product, but the issuance date isn’t set until after agency review. This schedule is based on many factors, including the scope of the questions being asked.</td>
<td>If there is work we are doing that is of interest to you, you may ask to become a co-requester. Check Watchdog for ongoing work.</td>
<td><strong>Agency review and comments do not affect the independence of our review or the report we release (although we may make technical corrections).</strong> We will publish written agency comments, if provided, in an appendix to the report.</td>
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**To find your request on**

- HouseNet (House):
  - hover over “Legislative” mega menu
  - click on Congressional Websites
  - scroll down to GAO Watchdog

- Webster (Senate):
  - under the Legislative Branch Sites links
  - click Government Accountability Office (Congressional Site)
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Our staff are organized around areas of expertise.