

Government AP

Chapter 4 Vocabulary

A Meridian® Study Guide by John Ho

| Chapter IV: Federalism | | | |
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| 1. Sovereignty | The quality of being supreme in power or authority. | 11. Formula Grants | Categorical grants distributed according to a particular set of rules ("formula") that specify who is eligible for the grants and how much each eligible each eligible applicant will receive. |
| 2. Federalism | The division of power between central and regional governments. | 12. Project Grants | Categorical grants awarded on basis of competitive applications by prospective recipients to perform a specific task or function. |
| 3. Dual Federalism | A view that holds that the Constitution is a compact among sovereign states, so that government and states are clearly differentiated. It is known as the "layer cake" model. | 13. Block Grants | Grants-in-aid awarded for general purposed allowing the recipient great discretion in spending the grant money. |
| 4. State's Rights | The idea that all rights not specially conferred on the national government by the U.S. Constitution are reserved to the states. | 14. Policy Entrepreneurs | Citizens, member of interest groups or public officials who champion particular policy ideas. |
| 5. Implied Powers | Those powers that Congress needs to execute its enumerated powers. | 15. Preemption | The power of Congress to enact laws by which the national government assumes total or partial responsibility for a state government |
| 6. Cooperative Federalism | A view that holds that the Constitution is an agreement among people who are citizens of both state and nation, so there is much overlap between state powers and national powers. It is known as the "marble cake" model. | 16. Mandate | A requirement that a state undertake an activity or provide a service, in keeping with minimum national standards. |
| 7. Elastic Clause | The clause in Section 8 of Article I in the Constitution, which gives Congress the means to execute its enumerated powers. It is the basis for Congress's implied powers, also known as the "necessary and proper clause". | 17. Restraint | A requirement laid down by act of Congress prohibiting a states or local government from exercising a certain power. |
| 8. Commerce Clause | The third clause of Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, which gives Congress the power to regulate Commerce among states. | 18. Redistricting | The process of redrawing political boundaries to reflect changes in population. |
| 9. Grant-in-aid | Money provided by one level of the government to another to be spent for a given purpose. | 19. Municipal Governments | The government units that administer a city or town. |
| 10. Categorical Grants | Grants-in-aid targeted for a specific purpose by either formula or project. | 20. County Governments | The government units that administer a county. |
| <p><i>Types of Grants</i></p> <pre> graph TD A(Grants-in-aid) --> B(Categorical Grants) A --> C(Block Grants) B --> D(Formula Grants) B --> E(Project Grants) D --- F[} Most Specific] E --- F </pre> | | 21. School District | The government unit that administers elementary and secondary school programs. |
| | | 22. Special Districts | Government units created to perform particular functions, especially when those functions are best performed across jurisdictional boundaries. |
| | | 23. Home Rule | The right to enact and enforce legislation locally. |