Federal Judicial Center

“to further the development and adoption of improved judicial administration through education & research”
Federal Judicial Center

Established by statute, 1967
Judicial branch agency
Mandate: education & research
Board
   Chief Justice, 7 judges, AO Director
Director
   Appointed by Board
Staff: 122 (2017)
Budget: $28,335,000 (2017)
Adult Education: the Foundation

Competencies
- Knowledge, skills, values
- Evidence-based learning objectives related to professional responsibilities

Task oriented
- Relevant, practical goals

Engaged, active, self-directed learner
- Program “ownership”
- Experiential learning
- Facilitation not instruction
Program Topics

Identified in consultation with Advisory Committees

Judicial Ethics
Substantive Law
Procedure and Evidence
Criminal Sentencing
Opinion Writing
Case Management
Court Administration and Leadership
Courtroom Skills
Using Information Technology
Science & Technology
Evolving Needs

Sentencing reform

Neuroscience

eDiscovery
Workshops & Seminars

Orientation
2 one-week sessions

Continuing Education
General and specialized
2-3 days, in different cities
Often in partnership with universities
Environmental law, employment law, intellectual property, mediation skills, science and technology, national security issues, etc.

Faculty: judges and experts
Not mandatory
FJC Publications

Some developed with an Advisory Committee
All reviewed by judges before publication

- Benchbook for District Court Judges
- Judicial Writing Manual
- Recurring Problems in Criminal Trials
- Case Management & ADR
- Deskbook for Chief Judges
- Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence
- Manual for Complex Litigation
- Monographs on Legal Issues
- Guides on Case Management and Procedural Issues
Programs for Court Staff

Court Administrators
Court administration
Leadership and supervision
Communication skills
Implementing judiciary policy
Change management
Code of conduct
Jury trial administration

Probation & Pretrial Services
Workshops, conferences, in-court programs, eLearning
Distance Education

FJC intranet site
Streaming video & audio
Web & video conferencing
eLearning
FJC production studio
Research at the FJC

**Mandate:** to develop and undertake analytical, empirical research in the fields of court operations and judicial administration, often at the request of judicial branch policymakers or Congress

Projects include:
- Case management
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Case weights
- Courtroom technology
- Impact of rules reform
- Courtroom usage
- Offender re-entry programs
Federal Judicial History

*Mandate: to conduct, coordinate, and encourage programs relating to the history of the judicial branch of the United States government*

Studies history of the federal judiciary

Produces publications

Provides guidance about preservation of court documents and judges’ papers

Compiles statistical and biographical information about judges

Teaching Judicial History Project: background on famous federal trials and related public debates
International Judicial Relations

Mandate: to exchange information about judicial-branch education, court operations, and strategies for improving the administration of justice with judges and court personnel from other countries

Informational briefings
Educational programs
Visiting Foreign Judicial Fellows Program
International conferences
Technical assistance
Materials
International Judicial Relations Committee
Visitors to the FJC: 2017

In 2017, the Center hosted over 400 visitors from 52 different countries and jurisdictions:

Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Estonia, France, Georgia, Haiti, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo, Kyrgyz Republic, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, West Bank and Gaza, Zimbabwe