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## **OBLIGATIONS AND SERVICES: STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

1. Who should you call when water is not working in your house? How are speed limits on roads decided? Why are drivers' licenses issued by states? In order to answer these questions, you need to know types of government power and the different obligations of federal, state, and local governments.
2. After watching the video, you will be able to:
  - ◆ Define the terms: enumerated, reserved, and concurrent powers;
  - ◆ Understand the obligations and services of government at the state and local level; and
  - ◆ Describe and classify public services provided by state and local governments.Let's get started!
3. Let's begin by looking at different types of government power: enumerated, reserved and concurrent.
4. Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution lists the powers given to the legislative branch. These are called enumerated powers. These powers are given only to the United States Congress.
5. Some examples of enumerated powers are the power to declare war, naturalize citizens, create post offices, pay for an army and navy, control immigration, and control trade. Remember, enumerated powers are powers **ONLY** for the United States Congress.
6. Another type of government power is called reserved power. The Tenth Amendment states: "the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." This means that the Tenth Amendment gives, or reserves, all of the powers that are not specifically listed for the federal government to the states and to the people.
7. Some examples of reserved powers are the power to create an education system and the power to issue driver's licenses. Note that the powers of Congress listed, or enumerated, in Article I, Section 8, identify specific actions that Congress may take. There are no listed powers for states. This means that the powers reserved to the states are only limited when the federal government decides to limit them.
8. A third type of government power is concurrent power. Concurrent powers are the powers that are shared by the federal and state governments.
9. Examples of concurrent powers include: the power to collect taxes, the power to borrow money, the power to make laws, and the power to create and repair roads and highways.
10. Let's check in- Can you match the government power with the correct definition?

→ ANSWER TO QUESTION

Well done!

11. Let's recap what we've learned so far:

- ◆ Enumerated, reserved, and concurrent powers are different types of government powers.
- ◆ Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution lists the enumerated powers of Congress.
- ◆ The 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment reserves all the powers not listed in the Constitution to the states and the people, and
- ◆ Concurrent powers are powers shared by both the federal and state governments.

12. Now that we know the types of government powers that exist, let's take a look at how the levels of government use these powers to fulfill obligations to the people.

13. While the federal government and state governments are given certain powers, they also have certain obligations they must fulfill. Sometimes, these obligations take the form of services provided to citizens. Each level of government provides services to the citizens and residents they serve.

14. Let's take a closer look at those obligations that involve state and local government. Be sure to check out the related video on federal government obligations and services under the Federal Government topic area!

15. Remember, the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment states that the powers not given to the federal government are reserved for state governments. Each state has a constitution that describes the state government's obligations and services.

16. State governments create and implement state laws that deal with issues impacting the citizens of that state. Similar to the federal government, state governments collect taxes to pay for services. These services focus on public safety, the economy, health services, and education.

17. State governments issue business licenses, driver's licenses and professional certifications. For example, your teacher has a teaching certificate from the state department of education.

18. Finally, state governments also have the power to set up local governments, which play an important role in the lives of citizens.

19. Let's check in- Scenario Question: You have just moved from Casper, Wyoming to Tallahassee, Florida, and you need a driver's license. Would you contact the federal, state, or local government to get your driver's license, and why?

→ ANSWER TO QUESTION

Well done.

20. Let's recap what we've learned so far:

- ◆ State governments get their reserved power from the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment.
- ◆ State constitutions set up a lawmaking process for states to provide services on public safety, the economy, healthcare, and education.
- ◆ State governments have the power to create local governments.

21. Speaking of local governments, let's take a closer look at the obligations and services of local governments. Local governments are the governments of cities and counties.
22. Local governments in Florida are required to provide services to their residents. Because local governments are the closest government to the people, they provide more direct services than the state and federal governments.
23. Many of the services provided by local governments are related to public safety. Local governments create law enforcement groups such as city police officers and county sheriff's departments. They also provide certain utilities such as water treatment and garbage services, and they provide other services, such as road maintenance, harbors, and other recreational areas.
24. Let's check in- You go to brush your teeth and realize there is not any water. Which level of government would you contact and why?  
→ ANSWER TO QUESTION  
Well done!
25. Let's recap what we've learned so far:
- ◆ Local governments are closest to the people and provide more direct services than the federal or state governments.
  - ◆ Local governments provide services related to public safety, public utilities, and public maintenance.
  - ◆ Local governments are cities and counties.