

Advanced Search Help Document

The search engine mainly uses two parameters. One is **q parameter** which is nothing but the query parameter and the other is **fq (Filter query) parameter** which is used to filter the search results. Using the q parameter will return many results including more loosely connected results, the fq option will return only the most accurate results.

These query parameters can be added to the end of the search engine URL (format on second page) or typed into the search box without the “q” or “fq” parameters included.

List of fq parameters that can be used for searching:

- arc (Administrative Rule-Making Document) Example: 2082C
- chamber (Chamber: House or Senate) *Case is important
- county (County: Name) Example: Polk *Case is important
- desc (Description)
- district (District Number) *Does not by default distinguish between Senate/House districts. If you type “1”, you will see both Senate District 1 and House District 1)
- dt (doctype)
- ELaw (Election Laws)
- first name- (First name: Tom) *Case is important
- ga (General Assembly Number)
- ir (Internal Reference: 8.33)
- last name (Last Name: Anderson) *Case is important
- name (Name: DocName) Example: CH0001)
- party (Party: Democrat) (Choices include: Democrat, Republican, No Party, Whig, Independent, Greenbacker, Unionist, Silver Republican, Populist, Other)
- sess (Session) (1 or 2) Use in combination with ga; (GA: 86&Sess1)
- text (Text of the document; stemming)
- title (Title of the document; stemming)
- year (2015)

For more information about this search engine (SOLR), you can visit the SOLR Wikipedia page: <https://wiki.apache.org/solr/>.

Different search fields in the Advanced Search Form:

Iowa Code Reference & Iowa Administrative Code Reference:

Uses the type and name facet to gets the results.

Example:

- `&fq=type:"Code of Iowa"&fq=name:"7E"`
- `&fq=type:"Administrative Code"&fq=name:"11.1.1"`

Sponsor Name:

Uses the sponsor facet to search for the documents.

Example: `&fq=sponsor:"FORD"`

Containing all these words:

q parameter is used to perform this search.

Example: `&q="Hogs"`

Not containing any of these words:

While searching using this field, search engine ignores all the documents with that specific word. For example `&q=-"Hogs"`, will ignore all documents with the word “Hogs”.

Containing one or more of these words:

Search engine matches at least one of the word mentioned in the input field. For example `&q="cats"or"dogs"`, returns documents with words cats or dogs or both in it.

Containing this exact phase:

Search engine looks for the exact match of words specified in the input field. Example : `&q="person required to have a fishing license"` returns all the documents with exact match of the phrase.

Containing these words near each other:

Returns all documents with the words mentioned and they don't need to appear next to each other. How far they both can appear also can be specified in the search form.

Example: `&q="swine pigs"~10`

In the above example, search engine returns all the documents with the words swine and pigs in it and both of the words can appear at a maximum distance of 10 words.

More Examples:

`&q="pigs"ANDfq="-swine"` - Keyword to search is “pigs” and not with the word “swine”.

Note:

The URL can be manipulated by adding several fq parameters and search engine will return documents based on those query parameters.