



# Remote Access to Library Resources

Distance Learning Students should also read the handout [Library Support for Distance Learners](#).

## General Access

All of the library's online resources are available anytime, through the library's website at (<http://blueridge.edu/library>). Anyone using a computer connected to the BRCC network should have automatic access to all resources. Some online resources require **Passwords** or **User Accounts** for remote access (away from BRCC); these are outlined below. If you have any problems with the library website or accessing library resources, please contact the library (828 694-1636 or [library@blueridge.edu](mailto:library@blueridge.edu)).

**Why restrict access?** Most of these resources contain copyrighted information, which is not freely available to the general public. The vendors that provide access to these resources do so because someone (BRCC or NC LIVE) has paid \$\$ for the access.

## Passwords

***If I have automatic access on-campus, why is a Password necessary for Remote Access?***

Every computer connected to the Internet is identified as unique by a specific IP address (Internet Protocol address). These IP addresses are what make it possible for the Internet to route the right information to and from each of the millions of computers connected to it. All of the library's online resources automatically recognize BRCC's computers because of their IP addresses, and provide these "on-campus" computers automatic access. Conversely, a computer that does not have a BRCC IP address will not be recognized, creating the need for another means of recognizing a valid user. Having special passwords works well. The most commonly requested of these is the **NC LIVE Password**, discussed below under **NC LIVE**.

## User Accounts

***Why do I need a user account for some things?*** Some online resources require a personal user account because the resource includes features that track and hold information from each user from session to session like search preferences or a favorites list. Typically, a user account is set up by filling out an online form that provides the vendor with a small amount of personal information and specifying a user name and password to be used to log in. The most common example of this is **NetLibrary**, discussed below.

## Resources:

### Library Catalog

The **Library Catalog**, *iLink* is freely available, anytime, via the Internet; no password required! Search the library catalog to discover what books and audiovisual materials the BRCC library has on your topic and gather the information necessary to locate them in the library. Visit the library home page (<http://library.blueridge.edu>) and click on the **Library Catalog** link. More information about iLink is available by clicking on the **Search** link.

### NC LIVE – <http://www.nclive.org/>

**NC LIVE** is a gateway to Online Databases, including electronic Encyclopedias, Literature Collections, Magazine & Journal Articles, and links to special websites. Most NC LIVE resources are provided through paid subscriptions to vendors. NC LIVE is maintained by the State Library of North Carolina; and is provided to all state supported libraries at no charge.

**About the NC LIVE Password:** Periodically, NC LIVE issues a special password to each library it supports, and it is up to the Library to distribute the password to valid users who desire remote access. Currently, the NC LIVE password changes once a year, shortly before the beginning of the fall semester.

**To get an NC LIVE Password,** come by the library and bring 1) your BRCC library card, 2) a Picture ID, and 3) your valid Student ID. If you do not have a BRCC library card you can obtain one during your visit. You should have received your Student ID at registration.

**Using the NC LIVE Password** is simple. When you are at home and want to use NC LIVE, or you choose an NC LIVE link on the library's website you will be prompted to choose your institution and input the password. Just choose Blue Ridge Community College from the dropdown list and type the password in the box provided, then click on the **[Submit]** button or hit your **[Enter]** key. You will be authenticated to use NC LIVE for that session. If you go back to NC LIVE later you will need the password again.

### NetLibrary – <http://www.netlibrary.com/>

**NetLibrary** is a special NC LIVE vendor that provides access to electronic books (eBooks) online. We have access to thousands of titles through NetLibrary including classics by authors like Poe, Twain, and Plato; and contemporary non-fiction, including many titles from the academic presses.

**About your NetLibrary Account:** In order to fully access and use NetLibrary, you must create an individual NetLibrary account. There are two ways to access NetLibrary to set up your account: A) On-campus (described below), OR, B) Remotely through NC LIVE using the NC LIVE Password. This is described in detail in the document [NetLibrary via NC LIVE](#).

#### **A) Creating a NetLibrary Account from an *on-campus* computer**

1. Go to <http://www.netlibrary.com/>
2. Click the Create a Free Account link in the upper right corner of the page
3. Fill out all required fields in the electronic form, and click the [Create Account] button – **choose a user name and password you'll remember.**
4. If there are any problems with your account creation you will be returned to the account creation form with an error message telling you what is wrong. Fix the problem and submit the form again.
5. Once the account is created you will be sent back to the NetLibrary home page, ready to search the collection.
6. When you are ready to leave NetLibrary, click on the Log Out link in the upper, right-hand corner of the page.

Once you have your NetLibrary Account created, you can go to any Internet connected computer in the world and use NetLibrary. Using NetLibrary is a big topic. Refer to the [Using NetLibrary](#) handout for instructions, or contact the library if you have trouble.