

USING EBSCOhost & ProQuest

FAQ'S (Frequently Asked Questions)

What are EBSCOhost and ProQuest?

EBSCOhost and ProQuest are online database services used to find periodical articles.

What is a periodical?

A periodical is a magazine or journal or newspaper; they are all published periodically or in regular intervals, such as every day, every week, every month, or four times a year.

Are EBSCOhost and ProQuest part of the Web?

No, they are databases that use the Web as a vehicle. Almost everything in EBSCOhost or ProQuest has been published in print form before it becomes available online.

Can I use EBSCOhost or ProQuest from home?

Yes. All staff, faculty and students who are currently employed or enrolled at BC can use these databases from their homes.

Can I use EBSCOhost and ProQuest from home during hours that the library is closed?

Yes. The databases are available both night and day.
But if you have problems, you will need to call a librarian during library open hours.

Which of these databases is better?

See the other side of this handout for a comparison of EBSCOhost & ProQuest.

Getting into the databases

1. Go to the library's website, <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/>
2. Click on "Periodicals/Databases." Select the database you want to search.
3. Click on the database that you want to search. Note: If you are accessing the database from home, you will be asked to enter your **BC ID number** and your **last name**.

If you are searching from your home and have problems, please call or send a message to the Library Reference Desk.

Our e-mail address is reference@bellevuecollege.edu

Our phone number is (425) 564-6161.

There is always a librarian scheduled at the desk during the library's open hours:

Monday – Thursday 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Closed Saturdays and School Holidays.

Searching Bellevue College's Databases

Which Database to Use?

EBSCOhost: Allows you to search for periodicals the library owns in print
Has better indexing and uses more standard subject headings
Allows you to search by # of pages, finding more useful articles

ProQuest: Includes Washington state and national newspapers
Includes many trade publications, good for business research
Includes Ethnic Newswatch, which provides alternative/minority viewpoints

Basic Search:

First restrict search to **Full Text**, and in EBSCOhost, to **Full Text** and/or **BC Holdings**.

Boolean Operators – Combine search terms with Boolean operators	
Use AND to combine two or more words to <u>narrow</u>	children AND diabetes
Use OR to find synonyms; this <u>widens</u> your search	children OR youth
Use NOT to <u>narrow</u> your search by excluding your terms. (NOTE: Use AND NOT in ProQuest)	diabetes NOT adults
You can combine AND , OR and NOT searches into one search statement. Always use parenthesis to separate the different parts of the search statement	(children OR youth) AND diabetes

Using Advanced Search to focus retrieval

Both databases: Write down useful **subject terms** or **suggested topics** as you find articles. Then search for these subjects in advanced search to find very relevant articles:

Searching: **Academic Search Complete** | [Choose Databases »](#)

<input type="text" value="children or youth"/>	in	<input type="text" value="SU Subject Terms"/>	<input type="button" value="Search"/>
<input type="text" value="and"/>	<input type="text" value="diabetes"/>	in	<input type="text" value="SU Subject Terms"/>

Locating and Saving your Database Findings

Full-text Articles: Some of the articles that you find in the database will be in an electronic full-text version. You've got the entire text and there is no need to look further. Emailing articles to yourself is the easiest way to keep track of what you have found.