To use most of our library resources you need to have an active MSU NetID. If you are unsure if your NetID is active go to http://netid.msu.edu for more information.

By using the Health Sciences Digital Library links to ebooks, databases, and other online resources you will automatically be prompted for your MSU NetID when off campus. This authenticates you as an MSU user and gives access to all the resources we subscribe to.

Most electronic library resources are limited to MSU faculty, residents, students, and staff. Assistants and staff not appointed or employed by the College and lacking an MSU NetID will not be able to access our materials.

If you are having difficulty accessing anything from off campus please contact Distance Learning Services (24/7) at:

1 (800) 500-1554; (517) 355-2345; or reachout@msu.edu

You may also contact your librarian Monday - Friday 9am-5pm by phone or email to troubleshoot access issues.

Off Campus Access
If you are accessing library resources from outside of MSU’s East Lansing campus you will need to authenticate using your MSU NetID and password. This will give you access via our proxy server. Any resource in the library catalog or eresources list that has a green IP icon requires authentication. Most of the links on the Health Sciences Digital Library webpage are IP authenticated resources but will not always display this icon.
The MSU Libraries subscribes to thousands of journals on a multitude of platforms. **Always access MSU’s electronic databases through the Health Science Digital Library’s database page or the libraries’ Electronic Resources page.** By doing so you will be authenticated through your MSU NetID and will see the option to download free full text of most articles.

We have subscriptions to all the major medical databases including PubMed, Web of Science, and Embase. We also subscribe to large databases that cover not just journal content but also ebooks, videos, images, and more. Examples of these are Clinical Key, Access Medicine, and Stat!Ref.

If you don’t want to search a large database for your articles use the **A-Z E-Journal List**. You can search by title or subject and see exactly what we own, the range of years it is available, and if we have it in print, electronic, or both.

If you find an article in a database that does not have a full text link try looking the journal up in the **A-Z E-Journal list** to see if we subscribe to the journal. If we do you can often get the full text link by going through the link to the journal in the library catalog.

**Finding Full Text Articles**

When searching databases from off-campus remember to log in to your library account and, regardless of location, click on the Find Text at MSU button to see if MSU users have access to the full text content. In PubMed you may also see a Spartan block S Full Text button that you click to access full text articles.

**Tips for Searching the Medical Literature**

At MSU you have access to many databases that can be used to find medical literature. Searching for key terms will, in many cases, find some relevant literature. But there are some tricks that will make your searching faster and more efficient. If you are doing an indepth literature review, contact your librarian for more guidance.

Most library databases, including PubMed, require knowledge of Boolean Operators (AND, OR, NOT) for effective searching.

You can access a Boolean Cheat Sheet at [http://hsl.lib.umn.edu/biomed/help/boolean-operators](http://hsl.lib.umn.edu/biomed/help/boolean-operators)

There are also many online tutorials:

MSU Libraries subscribes to a substantial number of medical ebooks that are available 24/7 to students and faculty via our Medical EBooks Guide. On the guide our ebooks are divided by subject, collection, and the required and recommended readings for the first, second, third, and fourth years of medical school.

MSU Libraries subscribes to a variety of textbook platforms including AccessMedicine, AccessSurgery, ClinicalKey, Books @ Ovid, and STAT!Ref. Through these platforms you can access thousands of clinical and biomedical textbooks.

Not all textbooks are available to the libraries for purchase in electronic format. We will add any required or recommended titles if and when they can be purchased as ebooks.

You can also search the library catalog (link on the guide) for electronic books, select the advanced search option, and choose ‘electronic resource’ as the material type to search only electronic books.

To access the ebooks you will be required to put in your MSU NetID if you are off campus.

Finding Print Books
Select the catalog from the libraries’ main page (or using the catalog search bar on the medical ebooks guide) to search for a book by keyword, title, author, or ISBN. If you do not get a result when searching for the title try using the author’s last name.

Requesting Books & Articles [InterLibrary Loan]

So you found the perfect journal article in PubMed or the best book about your topic but MSU doesn’t own the book or have access to the article?

Are you located outside of East Lansing and cannot come to the main campus to get physical material like a book, book chapter, or an older print journal?

You can order a copy of an article, book chapter, or an entire book through our Interlibrary Loan service (ILL) and have it delivered to your email, the Main Library, Secchia Center, or your home.

You will need to sign up for an ILLiad user account before you can make a request. Use the links at Requesting Library Materials to do so. For delivery location you should select the option that is closest to you, either a facility (eg: Main Library, Secchia Center) or distance if you are outside of East Lansing or Grand Rapids (eg: >50 miles).

Print books will be sent through the mail and articles and book chapters are sent electronically and you will receive an email when it is available.

If you have any access issues or need help filling out the ILL form please contact Distance Learning Services or your MSU librarian.

*If you are working at a hospital, and have access to their library, check their book and journal holdings before putting in an MSU ILL request. It could be quicker for you to use their copy.*
Mobile Apps

There are a lot of options for medical students and physicians looking to connect to information on their mobile devices. The MSU Libraries has curated a list of mobile apps that we support.

The list includes apps for point-of-care tools, journals and ereaders, textbooks and study tools, terminology and translation, medical calculators, tools for keeping current with medical literature, and accessing multimedia.

Examination Preparation Tools

Studying for your USMLE step exams or NBME subject examinations? We have study tools and question banks available through the library - no subscription fees neccessary!

We subscribe to several exam question banks (including BoardVitals’ shelf exam modules) and most of the First Aid Test Prep ebooks. You will find links to all of these resources, and more, through our Exam Preparation Guide.

Point-of-Care Tools

Point-of-care tools are used to quickly make evidence-based decisions in a clinical setting. They are examples of filtered information sources and include summaries, with links to relevant articles and guidelines, and are often graded for quality.

Check out our Point-of-Care tools guide: https://www.lib.msu.edu/health/poc/

Multimedia

The MSU Libraries’ subscribes to many online databases that include access to images and videos that can be used to study, make presentations, or add to assignments. These include anatomical images, scans, clinical skills videos, and more.

Please use our library guides for health sciences images and videos to find and appropriately use multimedia sources. If you have any questions please contact your librarian.

LINKS

- Health Sciences Images
  http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/medicalimages
- Health Sciences Videos
  http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/healthsciencesvideos/medicine

POINT-OF-CARE TOOLS

- Dynamed
- Essential Evidence Plus
- VisualDx

LINKS

- Mobile Apps for Medical Students and Physicians Guide
  http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/mobilemedapps/
- Examination Preparation Guide
  http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/medicalboardexamprep
Whether you are writing case reports, essays, or full literature reviews the library has resources to support you. We offer support for writers of all levels from novice to expert. Please take a look at our guide for *Writing in the Medical Sciences* for more information.

Similarly, academic integrity and plagiarism is integral to success in medical school and in the medical profession. Supporting your ideas with evidence-based research is a key component in evidence-based medicine. You should always give credit where credit is due.

For information on academic integrity please see our guide to recognising and avoiding plagiarism. We also have a guide for a variety of citation styles and citation management tools that can be found on our website.

**LINKS**

- Writing in the Medical Sciences  
  [http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/medwriting](http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/medwriting)

- Citation Style Guides  
  [https://www.lib.msu.edu/research/cite-resources/](https://www.lib.msu.edu/research/cite-resources/)

- Citation Management Software  
  [https://www.lib.msu.edu/citationmanagementsw/](https://www.lib.msu.edu/citationmanagementsw/)

- MSU Libraries Guide to Recognising and Avoiding Plagiarism  
  [http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/academic_integrity](http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/academic_integrity)

- Writing and Publishing Resources  
  [https://www.lib.msu.edu/medicalwriting_publishing/](https://www.lib.msu.edu/medicalwriting_publishing/)