

Visit MeL!

<http://mel.org>



The Michigan eLibrary (MeL) is your 24-hour link to **quality information** on virtually any topic. Vetted by professionals for resources that are **reliable, timely** and virtually **free of advertising**, MeL features an **easy-to-use gateway** that allows you to find resources by subject or apply search terms in a "multisearch" of various material types, whether books and audiovisual materials, magazine and newspaper articles, digitized resources, indexes, ebooks, and/or web resources.

The Michigan eLibrary is made up of:

1.) MeL "Best of the Web" - A Collection of Resources by Subject

- One of the first Internet subject collections, now in a pathfinder format
- Sites are chosen by subject specialists, with an emphasis placed on Michigan

2.) MeL Magazines, Newspapers, eBooks, Practice Tests, and more!

For Michigan residents only: from your library, or from anywhere else you have an Internet connection (with your driver's license or state ID):

- \$4 million worth of electronic resources (more than 45 subscription databases) purchased by the Library of Michigan for Michigan residents
- MeL includes millions of articles from many thousands of indexed magazines and newspapers a good percentage of which are full text
- MeL ebook collection consists of 21,000 full text non-fiction titles
- Additional databases include academic and career-prep practice tests, genealogy resources, consumer health information and much more

3.) MeLCat

For Michigan residents only: a catalog of over 7 million unique titles and over 26 million holdings (and growing!) from libraries around the state.

- Patrons from participating libraries can borrow books, CDs, and movies from other libraries at no charge
- Fast delivery—most items sent to the patron's library in 2 days
- Over 250 libraries (public, academic, school and special) are currently participating in MeLCat

4.) MeL Michigana, a growing selection of digitized statewide historical resources including manuscripts, photographs, audio files, etc.

- Making of Modern Michigan. Archives of Michigan, Civil War diaries and more

The Michigan eLibrary can help you find the answers!

What do you want to know?

- ✓ How to start a small business in Michigan?
- ✓ Date of the next lunar eclipse?
- ✓ Titles of award-winning children's books?
- ✓ Latest research on skin-cancer treatment?
- ✓ Where to find tax forms?
- ✓ Information about prescription drugs?
- ✓ How to make homemade bubbles?
- ✓ Where to find a job in Michigan?

FAQs About Driver's License Access to MeL

Why do I have to use my driver's license or state ID to use certain parts of MeL?

The Library of Michigan purchased this \$4 million collection of resources for exclusive use by Michigan residents. The login process simply provides reasonable assurance to the database providers that the user is a Michigan resident.

What if I don't have a driver's license?

You can use a state ID instead. State IDs are issued at Secretary of State offices for a nominal fee (under \$10). There is no age requirement to get an ID but you must prove you are a Michigan resident. IDs are valid for four years. For more details including required documentation see <http://michigan.gov/sos>.

If your library is a MeLCat participating library,

<http://elibrary.mel.org/screens/participating.htm> YOU may also access MeL resources with your library card number.



What about user privacy?

The method used by the Library of Michigan to verify that a user is a Michigan resident does not give us access to any personal or driving record information. The log-on is via a secure Web server and log-on numbers are not captured or stored.

What about access for children?

Children may use a parent's license number (with permission, of course) or parents may get state IDs for their children. There is no age requirement to get a state ID.



This service is funded by the State of Michigan through the Library of Michigan and from the Federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) via the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)



Rev 3/2008