

James Branch Cabell Library

Guest Access to Online Resources

VCU Libraries provides access to our collection of online resources for non-VCU patrons. VCU computer policy requires secure login to computers via VCU eID username and password. To ensure that other parties with need for online resources have means and opportunity to access them, we offer four possible methods:

1) Walk-in access

Non-VCU individuals may request **one hour of computer access** at our guest computer stations by showing a personal ID card, such as a driver's license, to the Circulation and Information Services staff. A password to login to one of the guests machines will be issued. Access is limited to one 60-minute session per day. At times when all guest machines are in use, you may be offered the next available hour instead. Note that failure to be present and logged in within 10 minutes of a scheduled time causes the system to remove your reservation and allow the next patron's access to the machine to be activated. Guests must be on-site to request access. This guest access method is in keeping with that of public and urban academic libraries, nationwide.

2) Scholar's Registration

Those with ID from another college or university who have need of access to online resources for extended research may complete a [Scholar's Registration form](#) at the Reference Desk. **If approved, this access begins within two business days with issue of a guest password to VCU computers. This guest password expires automatically in 14 days and cannot be reissued until the following semester.** Those granted guest passwords must comply with VCU Libraries computer resources regulations and VCU Computer and Network Resources Use Policy.

3) Open Saturdays

Richmond area high school students and individuals with an ID card from a college or university who have research needs that require VCU online resources may be logged in to VCU computers on Saturdays, space permitting. **This use is for academic purposes only;** users must comply with VCU Libraries computer resources regulations and VCU Computer and Network Resources Use Policy.

4) Friends of the Library

Friends of the Library donors may request through the Libraries' Development Office a guest computer login for use within VCU Libraries locations. This use is for academic purposes only; users must comply with VCU Libraries computer resources regulations and VCU Computer and Network Resources Use Policy.

www.library.vcu.edu

VCU Libraries

V i r g i n i a C o m m o n w e a l t h U n i v e r s i t y

an equal opportunity/affirmative action university

VCU Libraries Internet Access: Frequently Asked Questions

I'm not affiliated with VCU. What sort of access do I have?

Visitors from other colleges, universities and high schools and members of the public are welcome to make use of VCU Libraries research collections. Visitors may access the Libraries' catalog and digital resources at guest workstations and may be granted a temporary login at a public workstation for research purposes. Visitors may not use guest workstations or the temporary login in order to play games, surf the Web or engage in other recreational activities.

I'm a Friend of VCU Libraries. What sort of access do I have?

Friends of the Library donor privileges include an eID for use within VCU Libraries facilities. For additional information about Friends of the Library, contact Kimberly Separ at (804) 827-1163 or Antonia FD Vassar at (804) 827-1165, or visit: <http://www.library.vcu.edu/development/fof/>.

I am a graduate of VCU. What sort of access do I have?

Alumni are invited to join the VCU Friends of the Library. Alumni who are not Friends of the Library have the same access as members of the general public.

Where can I find computers with Internet access available for the public?

Most public libraries in the area and the Library of Virginia have limited numbers of computer terminals available for public use. Access may be restricted to library card holders. For additional information, visit:

Richmond Public Library - Public Computer Access
(<http://www.richmondpubliclibrary.org/content.asp?contentID=38>)

Library of Virginia - Internet Access Policy (<http://www.lva.lib.va.us/whoweare/visit/policies/inetpol.htm>)

Why do most of the public workstations in the library require a login?

In 2006, Virginia Commonwealth University instituted campus-wide authentication procedures for computer workstations at VCU. As a result, students, faculty and staff must use their VCU eID to access computer workstations. Use of the eID login provides VCU affiliates with secure, authenticated access to information resources at VCU. For information about VCU Libraries privacy policy, please see: <http://www.library.vcu.edu/privacy.html>

Why does VCU Libraries limit Internet access to the public?

VCU Libraries computing resources are primarily for the research needs of VCU students, faculty, administrators, and staff. The Libraries may authorize other individuals or affiliated groups to have access to its computing resources.

Members of the general public visiting the VCU Libraries are its guests and may use its computers for research, but with limited access to the Internet. When all computer workstations are in use, guests may be asked to discontinue using a computer if VCU students, faculty, administrators, or staff require access.

The Libraries reserves the right to restrict Internet access to sites when those sites consume too many computing resources. Users of the wireless network within VCU Libraries are subject to these same computer resources use guidelines.

Are there any other public computers on campus that allow Internet access?

All other computing facilities on the VCU campus are intended for use by VCU students, faculty and staff, and require an eID username and password issued by VCU Technology Services.

Who can I talk to if I have comments, questions or concerns about this policy?

Please provide us with your feedback using the Libraries' Suggestions form
(<https://www.library.vcu.edu/forms/suggest.html>)

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