

Boston Public Library eCard FAQs

What's an eCard and how do I get one?

An eCard is a Boston Public Library card that you can sign up for online at <https://www.bpl.org/ecard-registration> and which provides access to all online resources, including Libby and Palace.

eCards are available to anyone who lives, resides part-time to attend school, owns property, or works in Massachusetts.

eCards do not allow you to check out physical items such as museum passes, DVDs, and physical books. To check out physical items, you need a physical card.

Am I eligible for an eCard?

Register for an eCard if you meet any of the following criteria:

- Your primary residence is in Massachusetts.
- You are living in Massachusetts for most of the year while attending school in-state.
- You work for a Massachusetts employer.
- You own property (real estate) in Massachusetts.

Other Restrictions

If you are a short-term resident staying in Massachusetts you are not eligible for an eCard. However, you can visit any of our locations and apply for a research card in-person at the Central Library in Copley Square.

If you have any other card with the BPL, you are not eligible for an eCard (and don't need one!)

If you have any questions about eligibility, please email ask@bpl.org

Is there anything my eCard can't do?

Requesting and borrowing physical materials, including museum passes, requires a physical card. eCards can be upgraded to physical cards at any BPL location.

How do I renew my eCard?

You can renew your eCard 10 days before it expires or later. You can complete the renewal form online at <https://apps.bpl.org/ecard-renewal>

I can't find my eCard number. How do I look it up?

Fill out our Card Number Retrieval Form at <https://apps.bpl.org/card-number-retrieval/>. We'll email you a reminder of your eCard number.