About FirstSearch

Uniquely valued by member libraries, FirstSearch will continue to be offered as a separate service from WorldCat Discovery. A FirstSearch/WorldCat Discovery subscription provides access to the FirstSearch and WorldCat Discovery interfaces.

For more information about the future of FirstSearch and WorldCat Discovery, see Frequently Asked Questions, Next steps for WorldCat Discovery and FirstSearch.

Additional details about plans for FirstSearch will be shared as they are confirmed. To receive ongoing updates about FirstSearch enhancements, register for Discovery and Reference email updates.

- Get started

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  Get started with FirstSearch.

  - About FirstSearch
  - Customize FirstSearch
  - Manage FirstSearch
  - Promote FirstSearch

- Authentication

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  Find information about authenticating FirstSearch.

  - IP address recognition
  - NCIP access

- WorldCat Admin

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  Learn how to use the WorldCat Admin module to customize your FirstSearch service.

  - About WorldCat Admin
  - Administer staff ILL settings
  - Administrative module direct links
  - Create deep links to your library catalog in the WorldCat Services administrative module
Customize databases and full text
- Customize Interlibrary Loan for patrons
- Customize passwords and timeouts
- Customize searching and library holdings
- Customize the Patron ILL Request Form
- Description of the administrative module
- Information needed to set up IP address recognition access to FirstSearch
- Link your library, FirstSearch, and other web resources
- Navigate the administrative module
- Send patron comments to your library
- Set up or change IP address recognition access to FirstSearch
- Use the WorldCat Services Admin module

• Search

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Find information about searching FirstSearch.
- Available databases
- Basic search
- Advanced search
- Expert search in WorldCat indexes
- Non-Roman character displays in WorldCat
- Results
- Special search methods

• FirstSearch databases

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Find detailed information about databases available from FirstSearch and the OCLC Z39.50 server.
- ArticleFirst
- Clase and Periódica (ClasePeriodica)
- Electronic Books (Ebooks)
- Electronic Collections Online (ECO)
- ERIC
- GPO Monthly Catalog (GPO)
- MEDLINE
- OAIster
- Open Access Content
PapersFirst
- ProceedingsFirst (Proceedings)
- SCIPIO
- Values for the dbname or db component
- WorldCat
- WorldCat Dissertations and Theses (WorldCatDissertations)

• Z39.50 access

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Find information about Z39.50 access in FirstSearch.
- Bath Profile compliance checklist
- Z39.50 configuration for FirstSearch databases
- Z39.50 library resources: Overview and needed information

• FirstSearch training

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Find training on FirstSearch.

• Reference

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Additional resources for FirstSearch.
- Handouts

• Troubleshooting

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Find frequently asked questions (FAQ) and troubleshooting steps (Troubleshooting).
- Authorization number is invalid or expired error when updating IP addresses in FirstSearch Admin
- Can FirstSearch perform user authentication?
- Can I add my OpenURL server to FirstSearch?
- Can I bypass the FirstSearch home page during login?
- Can I choose a default database for FirstSearch?
- Can I choose a default interface language for FirstSearch?
- Can I choose a default search mode for FirstSearch?
- Can I link from my website to individual FirstSearch databases?
- Can users reuse previous searches during a FirstSearch session?
- Does FirstSearch remove duplicate records from cross-database search results?
FirstSearch is prompting for authorization and password from on campus
- How are the FirstSearch databases accessed through FirstSearch Z39.50 access?
- How can I get my FirstSearch login credentials?
- How can I request a quote for FirstSearch?
- How do I add my institution's IP addresses or create URLs for IP recognition?
- How do I add SCIPIO to my list of FirstSearch databases
- How do I change the sort order of the dept or branch in the Patron ILL Request Form?
- How do I configure FirstSearch so off campus students don’t need to log in?
- How do I get my Administrative module or service password for FirstSearch
- How do I remove a pickup location from FirstSearch?
- How do I remove the OCLC FirstSearch link from WorldCat.org
- How do I request a quote for SCIPIO Art and rare book sales/auction catalogs?
- How do I set up authentication from our library website to FirstSearch?
- How do I set up automatic logon for FirstSearch?
- How do I turn off ILL requests coming to my library through WorldCat.org?
- How is holdings information determined?
- How to obtain OCLC FirstSearch authorization credentials
- Invalid Autho/password error when trying to connect to FirstSearch via Z39.50 in Endnote
- Why can I no longer configure Interlibrary Loan settings?
- Is cross-database searching available in FirstSearch?
- Is it possible to add FirstSearch access to my Cataloging authorization?
- Is there a Sunset date for FirstSearch?
- I would like to make changes to the ECO database. Is this possible?
- My local holdings aren’t displaying as expected
- Sorting is not working correctly in CONTENTdm
- We are unable to access WorldCat through our authentication. We get this message: “System Failure Page: Unable to successfully complete transaction.”
- What are the options for displaying holdings in FirstSearch?
- Which MARC fields display in FirstSearch?
- Why isn’t FirstSearch displaying my ILL link?
- Why is our OpenURL linking incorrectly from FirstSearch to Clio?