



**NEWS RELEASE**  
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## **California to Provide Statewide K-12 Online Content for Schools**

**(Sacramento)** California is now offering, at no cost to local schools, districts or students, three online databases for use by every K-12 school and student in the state beginning this fall, the California State Library announced today.

Online content from Encyclopedia Britannica, ProQuest and TeachingBooks.net will be available – at school, at home, in libraries, on laptops, on phones -- to all K-12 educators, students, librarians and administrators in the state.

“It’s a simple idea: Help more California school kids succeed by being able to find more reliable information more easily where they look for it the most – online,” said Greg Lucas, California’s State Librarian.

These content resources commonly referred to as "library databases" provide teachers and students with a massive online library of books, scientific research, newspaper articles, photos, videos and more -- all aligned with the curriculum that California has created for its schools.

The state Department of Education estimates that roughly half of the state’s 1,000 school districts do not provide library databases and other online content to encourage and assist their students. Those districts with subscriptions pay for them out of their own operating budgets. Starting in the 2018-19 school year, all school districts in California are welcome to use these online resources, with the contracts paid at the state level.

Approved by lawmakers and signed by Gov. Brown as part of the budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, the \$3 million project was greenlighted by the late Nancy McFadden, Gov. Brown’s executive secretary who recognized the need to digitally connect students with content aligning with the state’s curriculum. Creating a statewide suite of online content would ensure greater access to all students, she believed.

The State Library worked with the Riverside County Office of Education for the K-12 Online Resources project to evaluate the bidders, award the contracts, and handle other fiscal agent responsibilities.

Encyclopedia Britannica, ProQuest and TeachingBooks.net are expected to provide full access to all California K-12 students and educational staff starting in August 2018 for the 2018-19 school-year.

The content provided will be age-appropriate and cover California's elementary through high-school curriculum.

Here's how California educators may review these resources starting today:

- **ProQuest:** California's teachers, students and administrators can get acquainted with their new ProQuest resources from April 15 through June 15. Go to <https://www.proquest.com/go/catrial> to set up a 60-day trial.
- **Encyclopedia Britannica:** All California schools and libraries can get started by visiting the sites and entering the username and password below:
  - Britannica School (in English) – <https://school.eb.com>
  - Britannica Escolar (in Spanish) – <https://escolar.eb.com>

Username: csl2018

Password: preview

- **TeachingBook.net:** All California educators, librarians, and other professionals may freely start using TeachingBooks.net by entering their work email address at [www.TeachingBooks.net/California](http://www.TeachingBooks.net/California)

The California State Library will provide updates about this project, other K-12 online educational resources and opportunities for technical support. Interested teachers, staff, librarians, parents and others are invited to join the [State Library's mailing list for K-12 education](#).

Members of the media may contact Kim Brown at 916-651-6466 or [Kimberly.brown@library.ca.gov](mailto:Kimberly.brown@library.ca.gov). General questions about the K-12 Online Content project can be directed to Mary Beth Barber, Special Projects and Assistant to the State Librarian, at 916-323-9758 or [Marybeth.barber@library.ca.gov](mailto:Marybeth.barber@library.ca.gov). Vendors may be contacted directly:

**ProQuest:** Nicola Harvey, Public Relations Manager, Global,  
[nicola.harvey@proquest.com](mailto:nicola.harvey@proquest.com), Telephone: +44 7983 021960

**TeachingBooks.net:** [hello@TeachingBooks.net](mailto:hello@TeachingBooks.net) or (800) 596-0710

**Encyclopedia Britannica:** Rick Lumsden, Executive Director, Statewide Partnerships, [rlumsden@eb.com](mailto:rlumsden@eb.com) or (800) 621-3900 x7363

Detailed information about the products available follow.

**Library Databases Available K-12 for 2018-19**

**Encyclopedia Britannica**

- Britannica School – Age-appropriate English language encyclopedias for elementary, middle, and high school.
- Britannica Escolar – Age-appropriate Spanish language encyclopedias for elementary and middle school students.

**TeachingBooks.net** – a suite of instructional resources that enrich the fiction and nonfiction books read by children and young adults. Databases include:

- Book guides & lesson plans
- Diverse books
- Literature-based vocabulary lists
- Meet-the-Author videos and book readings
- Resources for award-winning books

**ProQuest**

- CultureGrams – Concise cultural information on countries around the world.
- eLibrary – General reference aggregation of periodical and digital media content with editorial guidance for novice researchers.
- ProQuest Central Student – Database of millions of articles from more than 10,000 full-text scholarly journals.
- SIRS Discoverer – Selected content for beginning researchers, especially elementary and middle school students and educators.
- SIRS Issues Researcher – Curriculum-aligned database of content organized by complex issues, ideally for middle and high school students and educators.
- Research Companion – Information literacy tools and tutorials to help develop critical thinking.
- School & Educators Complete – eBook subscription database of over 12,000 titles that supports English Language Arts, Science, Math, Social Studies, Health, Physical Education, Information Literacy and Technology.

**Technical Sign-Up for District Access in 2018-19**

Technical experts at school districts, county offices, and other educational networks in California should provide implementation information at [www.TeachingBooks.net/CASetup](http://www.TeachingBooks.net/CASetup) (TeachingBooks is coordinating the collection of setup information for all three vendors.) Detailed information is expected for this form, including IP addresses, email domains, remote access information, and other technical questions. Completing this setup information using the form is the first step to have access at the district or county level.

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*About the California State Library* - Established in 1850, the California State Library is the oldest continuously operated public library in the American West and is the central reference and research library for state government and the Legislature. The library collection includes more than 4 million titles, 6,000 maps, and 250,000 photographs, and includes an extensive collection of documents from and about the state's rich history. The State Library is both a State and Federal Depository Library, providing free and open access to government information, is a U.S. Patent and Trademark Resource Center, and directs state and federal funds to support local public libraries and statewide library programs and services.