



# Wireless Internet and Library Databases Access

The Science, Industry and Business Library (SIBL) of The New York Public Library, provides wireless access to the Internet and to its licensed information databases. Wireless is on the lower level, in the Salomon Reading Room.

You will need to configure your laptop to connect. Please use these instructions and attempt to configure your laptop.

→ **Most new laptops will find a wireless network automatically.**

(If you have problems connecting, technical assistance is available by appointment, for connectivity *diagnosis* only. Note that no configuration changes, software or hardware installations will be made to your laptop by NYPL Technical staff.)

Hardware You Need & Configurations:

→ **A WiFi 802.11b Card properly installed** on your laptop, or a laptop with built-in WiFi capability. (The software drivers for your wireless adapter must be properly installed and configured for you to make a connection).

→ **Set your wireless network adapter's Network Identifier (also known as ESSID or Network Name) to 'NYPL'. No password is required.**

Software Configuration:

If you are a PC/Windows user, **TCP/IP protocol** should already be installed on your computer. You will also need a **browser** to connect to the Internet such as **Internet Explorer** or **Firefox**. (Browsers and other Internet tools are usually pre-installed on new laptops.)

→ **Your TCP client package must be configured to obtain an IP address automatically from a server.**

→ [ **Note: To connect to SIBL's information databases, go to: <http://sibl.nypl.org> and select a database.** This URL is only accessible within the library.

Note: Some databases are accessible only in the Electronic Information Center (EIC). Most databases can be accessed with wireless connections, but some may only work well through a higher-speed "wired" connection.

If you are having trouble accessing a database, speak to a staff person in SIBL's EIC.

If you would like suggestions on the best resources for your information needs, or help finding information just ask any librarian, at the McGraw Desk, or in the EIC.]

See verso for troubleshooting instructions:

## Troubleshooting for Windows NT and Windows 2000/XP Users

Once you have configured your software and are using the Library's Ethernet connection, verify that you have an active connection to the Internet: Go to Start, Run, and type CMD and then click on OK. A command prompt window will appear. Type one of the following within the command prompt window:

- ipconfig/all Displays the full configuration information
- ipconfig/release Releases the IP address
- ipconfig/renew Renews the IP address

→**Windows 95 and 98 Users:** Once you have configured your software and are using the Library's Ethernet connection, verify that you have an active connection to the Internet: Go to Start, Run, and type WINIPCFG and then click on OK

- The IP configuration windows will appear
- Click on the More Info button
- If you are having an IP conflict, you may click on the Release All button (releases the current IP), and then click on the Renew All button (renews current IP)

**Macintosh PowerBook or iBook Users.** Laptops must have the MacTCP Control Panel installed. This control panel comes pre-installed with recent versions of the system software. (If you have other MacTCP configurations that you would like to save, MacTCP Switcher is a useful utility for storing several different setups.) To configure your MacTCP, choose to "Connect via Ethernet." Configure using DHCP server, search Domains: nypl.org.

### Limitations and Disclaimers

- The NYPL wireless network is **not secure**. Information sent from, or to, your laptop can be captured by anyone with a wireless device and the right software within several hundred feet. Library users should use encryption (SSL or HTTPS) when sending sensitive information, and avoid transmitting sensitive information when using SIBL's network or any other public computing facility.
- Assistance for **diagnosis** of connection problems will be offered by staff of the Library's Information Technology Group on an appointment basis. To request an appointment, please speak with a staff member.
- Operating systems and software other than Microsoft Windows can be used on laptops connecting to the Library network, but troubleshooting for connections other than Windows will not be provided by library staff.
- Due to insurance limitations and warranties, Library staff cannot install Ethernet network interface cards on users' laptops. (WiFi compatible Ethernet cards are sold and installed by local computer stores.)
- The Library does not download, provide, or install any software for laptop users.
- No guarantee is provided that a laptop will connect, even if the software and hardware are installed; Many factors, including other software on the laptop, may interfere with a connection.
- The Library assumes no responsibility for alterations made to a laptop configuration, operation, or data files resulting from connection to the Library's network.
- The Library assumes no responsibility for damage, theft, or loss of any kind to a user's equipment, software, data files, or other personal property brought into or used at the Library's facilities. Do not leave your laptop unattended.