



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact

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AT YOUR FINGERTIPS – ASKRI.ORG PROVIDES INFINITE INFORMATION FOR ALL RHODE ISLANDERS

Easy-To-Use Website Provides Tool for Learning, Research, and Answers To Your Questions

Providence, RI (October 24, 2013) – Need to fix your car? Is your aunt is coming from Florence and you need to brush up on your Italian? Can't remember how to do long division? Trying to find your great-grandfather's birth certificate?

There's a quick, free and ready online resource for almost any question you have or information you might need – with librarians online and ready to help you.

AskRI.org is a rich, comprehensive website geared to Rhode Islanders featuring robust online resources that provide access to a vast array of information. AskRI also offers live and real-time reference help from librarians and tutors.

Shane Sher, the AskRI.org program coordinator, says, "Never before has such a high level of current and comprehensive online tools been freely available to the people of Rhode Island."

The resources on AskRI.org offer a wealth of information to answer your questions, whether simple or more in-depth:

- **AtoZDatabases** brings valuable insights to consumers, established businesses, and startups alike. Highly customizable searches connect to millions of businesses.
- **Tutor.com** connects students to qualified tutors who are available to provide live homework assistance from 2PM-10PM. It also provides information for job seekers through the Career Center.
- **Mango.com** is an online language-learning program that is easy to use and highly effective – offering courses in languages from Arabic and Swahili to Italian and Spanish as well as over a dozen ESL courses.
- **WorldBook Online** is the online version of the well-known home and library staple. It is updated regularly, can be translated into over 30 languages, and is full of information for learners of all ages.
- **LearningExpress** offers practice tests and tutorials, including the SAT, the GED, or job certification preparation for careers in health, the military, plumbing, and more.
- **HeritageQuest** provides genealogical information, where you can search through historical Census records, books of family and local histories, and an index of millions of articles that date from 1800-2009.
- **EBSCOhost** links users to journal articles, books, and resources for students and scholars. But you can also find instruction on how to diagnose and repair a problem in your car, or look up health care information in Consumer Health Complete.

Videos and tutorials on YouTube are also available to help users as they explore the resources. (<http://bit.ly/1angF2s>).

Reference librarians are available 60 hours a week, Monday through Saturday, to respond to reference questions by online chat, email, or phone. Rhode Island small businesses can get help in locating relevant forms and regulations, or residents can find details about public parks or farmers markets. Additionally, AskRI organizes reliable and vetted links around vital topics - for job seekers, students, librarians, educators, and learners of all ages.

AskRI.org is the online portal for Rhode Island's Statewide Reference Resource Center, in partnership with Providence Community Library. Funding is provided by the Rhode Island Office of Library Information Services, the Institute for Museum and Library Services and Ocean State Libraries.

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AskRI.org The answer to your questions

News Live Chat Librarians & Educators Resources Students About Help

Welcome to AskRI

mango languages A to Z databases WORLD BOOK WEB LearningExpress, LLC EBSCO eBooks

New to the website? Get started here!

 HOMWORK HELP RI Homework help for students of all ages	 WORLD BOOK Encyclopedias for all ages	 EBSCO eBooks Magazines, reference books & more
 CAREER CENTER @ HOMEWORK HELP RI Career services for adults	 Ask a Librarian a Question	 HERITAGEQUEST Search your genealogy
 LearningExpress Practice tests and tutorials	 A to Z databases Business & employment resources	 mango languages Learn a language

Email Us a Question

Ask a Librarian (email/chat/phone)

Get answers from a librarian:
Monday - Thursday 9:30 am - 5:30 pm Friday & Saturday 9:30 am - 5:30 pm
askri@askri.org 401.223.1200

www.askri.org Home Page



AT A GLANCE

What is AskRI?

AskRI is a virtual library, which provides access to quality reference services and resources to all residents of Rhode Island. Our site, AskRI.org, provides links to free online resources, live help from librarians, and up-to-date and comprehensive links and resources.

What services does AskRI provide?

AskRI provides online reference help - librarians who respond to reference questions remotely by online chat, phone, or email. Anyone can ask questions, such as how small businesses can locate relevant forms and regulations, or how fishermen can get licensed for the season.

AskRI.org also features links to reliable, up-to-date resources that provide a wide range of information, including: AtoZ Databases; EBSCO*Host*; HeritageQuest; LearningExpress; Mango Languages, Tutor.com's Homework Help and Career Center; and World Book Web. These links provide access to scholarly articles, encyclopedias, medical information, full text versions of books, language learning programs, genealogy research, practice tests, and more. We also feature a comprehensive Job Seeker Center, which links to job posting boards and career tools, and a Health and Nutrition Center, with links to healthcare resources and insurance, nutrition, medical encyclopedias, and more.

How is AskRI funded?

Funding for AskRI, Rhode Island's Statewide Reference Resource Center, and AskRI databases is provided through the Rhode Island Office of Library and Information Services in accordance with RI General Law 29-6-9). Additional funding for statewide databases is provided through the federal Institute for Museum and Library Services and Ocean State Libraries.

Who does AskRI serve?

Since the launch of the site, AskRI.org has served an average of 10,000 visitors a month. Reference librarians have answered over 3,000 questions by chat, and 500 questions by email.

What is needed to access the services of AskRI?

All you need to access the resources and tools on AskRI is a computer or mobile device that can access the Internet. When you are physically in Rhode Island, most of the databases and electronic tools such as Homework Help can be used without entering a username or password; Mango Languages and Learning Express require that you first set up an account using your public or academic library card. If you are out-of-state, you will need to use your public or academic library card to access the databases and electronic tools. If you don't have a computer, mobile device or internet, AskRI resources are easily accessible at your local public library. You can also call AskRI (list phone number and hours).