

Palm Beach County Electronic Databases – Patron Authentication

Overview:

If you are accessing the electronic databases from outside of the library you may be required to enter your library card number. The program used to authenticate your library card number is called Ezproxy (<http://www.ezproxy.com>). Ezproxy provides users with remote access to our web-based licensed databases.

If you have a firewall at your home or institution, it must be configured to allow web requests to get to EZproxy. If you also use Network Address Translation (NAT), you should review additional information here: <http://www.ezproxy.com/support/nat.html>.

Firewalls:

Most ISPs do not limit the areas their users can access on the Internet, so home users do not tend to encounter problems with firewalls. However, corporate sites often employ firewalls and may be restrictive in what their employees can access. The corporate firewall must be configured to allow access to the library's EZproxy server. It's important to understand that corporate firewall restrictions do not create problems that are unique to Ezproxy. Issues created by firewall will be encountered when accessing any site that utilizes a proxy server solution for remote access.

What ports need to be open on your firewall?

The first port used by EZproxy is 2048. Port 2048 is used by EZproxy to handle user authentication. EZproxy always skips port 2049 (port 2049 it is used for Network File System).

EZproxy creates "virtual web servers" by assigning one additional TCP port for every web host used by the databases provided by the library. As an example, EZproxy might assign port 2050 for heritagequest.com, 2051 for netlibrary.com, and 2052 for Pricelt.com. Since the ports are assigned based on the web server names chosen by database vendors, it is not possible to predict the exact number of ports that EZproxy will use. EZproxy can use up to 200 ports ranging from 2048 to 2248. If your site uses a firewall, your firewall may need to be configured to allow incoming connections on these ports.

Further information

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, from the smallest typo to the biggest problem, please let us know; support@pbclibrary.org