WHAT IS ERIC?
The ERIC (Educational Resources Information Center) database is the world’s largest index of journal articles and reports in education. It contains more than 1.2 million citations of journal articles from the Current Index to Journals in Education (CIJE) and nonjournal documents from Resources in Education (RIE). ERIC covers selected education literature written from 1966 to the present. Updated monthly.

WHAT TYPES OF INFORMATION WILL I FIND?
ERIC provides abstracts and citations of journal articles, books, book reviews, dissertations, instructional materials, conference reports, speeches, teaching guides, bibliographies, government reports, and more. ERIC contains some full-text articles. To obtain full-text information, you may have to search the ERIC database for suitable abstracts and then locate the full-text in another database or print source.

The records in ERIC are organized into two main categories: ERIC documents (ED) and ERIC journal articles (EJ). Each record has a unique alphanumeric (2 letters and 6 digits) accession number. An accession number that begins with EJ indicates that the item is a journal article. An ED accession number tells you that it is a document or report.

Examples:  
EJ627968 (journal article)
ED321207 (document)

HOW TO ACCESS
To access ERIC from on or off campus with your computer account user name and password:

2. Click on “Online Databases.”
3. Click on “Search Databases.”
4. Click on the letter “e” and select “ERIC.”

IDENTIFY YOUR SEARCH TERMS
Before you search the database, you will need to identify your search terms. To do this, it is helpful to first express your search topic(s) as a statement or question.

Example: What is the effectiveness of after school programs for at-risk students?

Then select the major concepts or key topics in your statement to be searched.

Examples: effectiveness, after school programs, at-risk students
SEARCH THE ERIC THESAURUS FOR PREFERRED SUBJECT HEADINGS

Subject headings are assigned to each record indexed in the ERIC database to identify its subject content. For a more efficient search, convert your search terms into the official subject headings by searching the ERIC Thesaurus.

1. Click on the Subjects button to access the Thesaurus.

2. Type in your search term and click on Find. ERIC will either verify that your search term is a subject heading, or it will provide the preferred subject heading or descriptor to use.

In this example, at risk students is not an official subject heading. The Thesaurus gave High Risk Students, an alternative term to use instead.

3. Click on Expand to get more information about the subject heading.

You may find broader, narrower, or related search terms to use as well.
ADVANCED SEARCH

1. Enter the subject headings you found in the ERIC Thesaurus in the Search for box(es). Keep it simple! Enter one search topic per box. You do not have to use all three boxes.

2. Click on the drop-down box(es) to select the field (exs. Keyword, Author, Source (journal title), Title, Subject, Publication Type) to search in for each Search box.

3. Limit your search by Year, Document Type, Language, or Full-text, if you want.

4. Click on Search.

SEARCH RESULTS

ERIC lists the records that match your search criteria in the List of Records screen. This screen provides brief citations containing accession numbers, sources, authors, and titles for the items. ERIC displays the most recently added records to the database first.

Click on a title of interest to view a summary (abstract) and more information about the item.

Click on Full Text to get full text articles and documents if available.

ED indicates this is an ERIC journal article.

EJ indicates this is an ERIC document.

Number of records retrieved.
VIEWING DETAILED RECORDS & FULLTEXT

Look at your record to determine if it's an ERIC document (ED) or an ERIC journal article (EJ).

**ERIC DOCUMENTS (ED)**

- Click on FullText (if available) to view the entire document or article.
- ERIC documents from ED054391 through ED337570 are available on microfiche in file cabinets in the Microform Area on the Main Floor of the Library. Some ERIC documents are books and are not available on microfiche or online.

**ERIC JOURNAL ARTICLES (EJ)**

- This article is full-text on ProQuest Research Library. Click Article to get it.
- Article Linker will also allow you to check the Library’s catalog for the title of the journal (NOT the article), or request to borrow a copy through Interlibrary Loan (ILL).

- If the FullText link is not available, click on the Article Linker button or Get it! to see if the document is available in the Library’s catalog, or to borrow a copy through Interlibrary Loan.