

Best Free Websites for Research

Finding good research can be tough but there are free resources if you know where to look. Here's a list of free academic search engines and databases that you should check out.

1. [Google Scholar](#)

Even if you've not used *Google Scholar* before, you'll know Google. You can probably guess that *Google Scholar* is a search engine dedicated to academic work. Not everything listed on *Google Scholar* will be freely available in full. It is a good place to start if you're looking for a specific paper, and many papers can be downloaded for free.

2. [CORE](#)

CORE is an open research aggregator. This means it works as a search engine for open access research published by organizations around the world, of which is available for free.

3. [Bielefeld Academic Search Engine \(BASE\)](#)

Another dedicated academic search engine *BASE* offers access to more than 140 million documents from more than 6000 sources. Around 60 percent of these documents are open access, and you can filter results to see only research that is available for free online.

4. [Directory of Open Access Journals](#)

The *Directory of Open Access Journals* is a database that lists around 12,000 open access journals covering all areas of science, technology, medicine, social sciences and the humanities.

5. [MedlinePlus](#)

Extensive knowledge from the National Institutes on health and other trusted sources on over 740 topics on conditions, diseases and wellness. There is also a medical dictionary as well as a medical encyclopedia. Extensive information on prescription and non-prescription drugs is also provided.

6. [Social Science Research Network \(SSRN\)](#)

SSRN is a database for research from the social sciences and humanities, including 846,589 research papers from 426,107 researchers across 30 disciplines. Most of these are available for free, although you may need to sign up as a member (also free) to access some services.

7. [EBSCO Open Dissertations](#)

EBSCO Open Dissertations now includes the content from *American Doctoral Dissertations*. It is a free database with records for more than 1.4 million electronic theses and dissertations from more than 320 universities around the world.

8. [GreenFILE](#)

GreenFILE is a free EBSCO research database covering all aspects of human impact on the environment. Its collection of scholarly, government and general interest titles includes content on global warming, green building, pollution, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, recycling and more.

9. [InfoPlease](#)

InfoPlease searches the Information Please almanac and timeline, their atlas, the Columbia Encyclopedia, a dictionary, and a thesaurus. Information Please has been providing authoritative answers to all kinds of factual questions since 1938.

10. [CIA World Factbook](#)

The World Factbook is prepared by the Central Intelligence Agency and provides access to maps, history, geography, people, government, economy, communications, transportation, military, and other information for countries around the world.