USING THE LIBRARY’S RESOURCES FROM OFF-CAMPUS: INTRODUCING KSU PROXY

Off-campus (or remote) access to the University Libraries’ electronic resources is now provided through a new service known as KSU Proxy. KSU Proxy is replacing the KSU VPN for remote library access. KSU Proxy allows Library users to securely connect to databases, electronic journals, ebooks and streaming media services without installing complicated third-party software. When you attempt to access library content from off campus, you’re prompted to enter your FlashLine username and password after which you’re connected. It’s that easy.

OFF-CAMPUS ACCESS FAQS

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Why do I need KSU Proxy?

Many of the databases, electronic journals, ebooks and streaming media services to which the University Libraries subscribe are governed by license agreements that restrict access to current Kent State University students, faculty and staff ONLY.

Most content vendors control access to their resources by limiting it to computers on campus. KSU Proxy serves as an intermediary by passing information between off-campus users and restricted resources. In other words, it verifies for the vendor that you’re a current student, faculty or staff member entitled to access even though you’re not on campus.

What do I have to do to use KSU Proxy?

KSU Proxy requires no configuration on the user’s part. In fact, all you need to use KSU Proxy is your FlashLine username and password.

How does KSU Proxy work?

The connection to KSU Proxy is coded within the links to databases, electronic journals, ebooks and media on the library’s web pages and in KentLINK. When you click on a link to an online resource, KSU Proxy checks whether your computer is on or off campus.

• If you’re on campus, you’ll bypass KSU Proxy and be sent directly to the resource.
• If you’re off campus, you’ll be presented a Kent State University login page and prompted to enter your FlashLine username and password. Once entered, you’ll be linked to the resource.

Will my bookmarks to journals and databases still work?

Yes, if you are on campus. No, if you are off campus. Links direct Internet traffic through KSU Proxy to check if you’re on campus or off. If you have bookmarks you regularly use from off campus, you should visit the resource through the Library’s website and resave those bookmarks. Links bookmarked from off campus will work on campus, but not vice versa.

Why the change from KSU VPN?

The KSU VPN was complicated to use, requiring users to download software, install it and correctly configure it for access. KSU Proxy requires none of that. Furthermore, users had to remember to login before accessing the Library’s resources. KSU Proxy prompts you to login only when necessary.

Is KSU VPN still an option for off-campus access?

The KSU VPN service will still be available at current service levels for the foreseeable future. KSU VPN can be used in the following situations:

• KSU Proxy service is down or unavailable
• You already have the KSU VPN client installed and configured
• You need to access your network drives remotely
• You access other Kent State University systems that require the use of KSU VPN

Complete instructions for downloading and installing the KSU VPN are available through Tech Help.

NEED HELP?

Help!
330-672-HELP (4357) - Available 24/7

Live Chat