BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
PLUG-IN/WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS
DHCP PROCEDURE
WINDOWS XP

Wireless access is available at all Boston Public Library locations. Direct plug-in ports are only available in Bates Hall in the Central Library.

1. Select Start --> Control Panel--> Network Connections (depending on the view set up, this might also be labeled Network and Internet Connections.

2. Right click Local Area Connection, then click Properties.

3. In the General information tab, make sure that Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) is checked and highlighted, then click Properties.

4. On this screen, make sure that the "Obtain an IP address automatically" radio button is selected. The "Obtain DNS server address automatically" should also be selected .

5. Click "OK" on all the opened windows to close them.

6. Restart your computer if prompted.

Your computer is now configured for DHCP.

If you have an Internet service that you often connect to that uses DHCP you will not have to set up this service, but your laptop may have retained that IP address in its files. To get a new IP address through DHCP you will need to release and renew the IP address.

To Release and Renew IP Addresses

1. Go to a command prompt. In order to get a command prompt, click on start and choose run. In the "open:" line, type "command". A black box will open with a command prompt inside it.

2. At the command prompt, type:
   Ipconfig /release
   You should get a notice that the address has been released.

3. Now you need to get a number from the BPL network. At the command prompt, type:
   Ipconfig /renew

After a brief time, you should be notified that you have a new IP number associated with your NIC card. At this point, you should be able to use the BPL network.

You must have administrative rights to your computer in order to release or renew your IP address.

NOTE: If you have installed a Personal Firewall System (PFS) you need to be sure that your PFS is not blocking BPL Internet Access. You may need authorize access or to disable the PFS while you are using the connection.