

Use Your Rock Island Library Card to Do Your Homework!

Written by Lisa Lockheart

Tuesday, 10 September 2013 14:27

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Rock Island, IL - Rock Island Public Library is pleased to announce the launch of **Brainfuse**, a new online tutoring service that provides learning tools for learners from kindergarten through college, as well as adult learning tools for career, job searching and skill building.

"Brainfuse is a great new resource that the Rock Island Public Library now offers to the community. With live tutors helping with homework assignments, papers, and practice tests, students will have a chance to get help outside the classroom. Adults can use Brainfuse to work on their resumes, interview skills, and practice the GED, GRE, and citizenship tests. Brainfuse packages a wide variety of services into one website," says Natalie Struecker, Reference and Adult Services Director for the Rock Island Library.

The Brainfuse eLearning suite consists of HelpNow and JobNow modules. HelpNow offers personalized live homework help aligned with state standards in math, reading, writing, science and social studies. It also includes dozens of practice tests, including the ACT, SAT, ASVAB and more. HelpNow tutoring covers Kindergarten through 12th Grades, with additional resources for college-age students. The Adult Learning Center offers resume assistance, career resources, skill-building exercises, and practice for GED and citizenship tests. Also useful to adults will be JobNow module, which offers real-time resume and interview coaching and career service.

Brainfuse is available to Rock Island Library cardholders from the public computers at three Rock Island Library locations, or from any computer with an Internet connection. Live online tutors are available 2:00 pm to 11:00 pm, Sunday through Saturday. The free service started Sept. 3, and requires a Rock Island Library card. To use Brainfuse, go to www.rockislandlibrar

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, select Online

Tools, and click either the HelpNow or JobNow logos.

When using the program for the first time, users will want to create an account to save and use many of the features in the HelpNow and JobNow modules.

For information about getting or renewing a Rock Island Library card, Rock Island and Milan-area residents should call the library at [309-732-7323](tel:309-732-7323).

HelpNow™

HelpNow™ provides differentiated learning solutions for users of diverse needs and background. Students communicate with live tutors using an interactive whiteboard to chat, write, draw, copy/paste text or images and graph homework problems. HelpNow offers live tutor access for homework help, skills building and test preparation where after taking a quiz; the user can connect directly to a live tutor from the test center without having to return to the main page. Because HelpNow is personalized, both the student and the tutor can access quiz questions to do an intensive test prep which may include loading lessons on the whiteboard. All live sessions are saved and can be replayed as well as shared with friends and teachers by email.

The Writing Lab and the 24/7 Center options give users the freedom to receive assistance at any time of the day without connecting with a live tutor. Users can submit papers through the Writing Lab for a detailed feedback. 24/7 Center is for non-writing assignments such as math or science. All reviews and comments from our tutors are found and stored in the Message Center which is found on the student homepage. For students who prefer to work independently and form their own online study group, HelpNow offers a set of collaborative tools – Meet and Brainwave. Meet allows students to schedule their own online sessions using the Brainfuse Meet whiteboard which is specifically designed for a group setting. Brainwave is a recordable whiteboard where students can draw, write on the whiteboard and chat then save and email it to others for feedback.

Adult Learning Center

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Adult Learning Center is the adult learners' version of HelpNow™ where patrons can access GED prep, U.S citizenship test prep, resume assistance, Microsoft Office support, and Career Resources which lists popular job search links. Microsoft Office support allows patrons to ask questions about Excel, Word and PowerPoint. Writing Lab, 24/7 Center and the Skills Building are also included in the Adult Learning Center suite.

JobNow™

JobNow™ provides library patrons with help in every step of the job search process. Job coaches are available to help patrons with job search related questions. In addition to helping beginning job seekers pinpoint their desired career field, coaches can also provide constructive suggestions on resumes, help write a professional cover letter, and give live interview practice and feedback. If you do not have time for a live session, simply submit your resume at any time of day through the Resume Lab and a job coach will send it back to you within 1 business day with detailed feedback and suggestions for improvement. The JobNow™ service also comes with an extensive collection of resources, including resume/cover letter templates, interview tips, sample interview questions, industry-specific sample interview questions, and a diverse array of online resources and links.

About Brainfuse™

Brainfuse is one of the nation's leading online tutoring providers, serving a diversified client base of libraries, school districts and colleges/universities. Brainfuse patrons receive one-to-one tutoring via a versatile and user friendly online classroom. Brainfuse clients include school districts, colleges, and library systems throughout the country including **Dallas, Seattle, MELSA, Suffolk, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Sacramento, and San Diego**. For more information about Brainfuse services, contact

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