This guide will provide you with step-by-step instructions for navigating the library’s standards.

Standards are published by recognized standards organizations, and contain rules and specifications related to particular activities, including:
- Product design requirements
- Test methods
- Classifications
- Recommended practices

Some also define safety requirements and/or set levels of performance for products.

Accessing Standards

While there are several ways of accessing standards, either in print or electronically, a good starting place is the Standards subject guide.

On the Libraries home page (http://libraries.dal.ca/), select Subject Guides from the tabbed menu, and type standards in the search box.

Databases

Dalhousie Libraries subscribe to several databases that provide access to electronic full text standards. Some may be more appropriate for certain subject areas than others.

Some commonly used databases include: ASTM Digital Library, Standard Methods online, IEEE/IEE Electronic Library, and IEEE Standards.

Online

The following standards organizations make some or all of their standards freely available online:
- International Engineering Taskforce (http://www.ietf.org/)
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO) (http://www.iso.org/)
- International Telecommunications Union (ITU) (http://www.itu.int/)
- World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) (http://www.w3.org/)
The Sexton Library has the largest standards collection in the Maritimes.

(For a complete list of the associations, institutes, and organizations represented, see the Sexton Libraries Standards tab in the subject guide.)

To search for a print standard, on the Libraries home page (http://libraries.dal.ca/), click the icon beside the search box, then select Advanced Search.

If you know the standard name or some related keywords, type them in the first search box.

If you know the standard number, type it in the second or third search box, and select Call Number from the left hand dropdown menu.

Verifying a Standard

If you are unsure about which standard you are looking for, or cannot find one using these methods, try searching for it online.

Some commercial standards providers are:

- IHS Standards Store (http://www.global.ihs.com/)
- Thomson Reuters Techstreet (http://www.techstreet.com/)

More Information

Visit your subject guide or contact a librarian at: http://dal.ca.libguides.com

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