

Sending and Receiving QSLs by eQSL

eQSL.cc is the first and only global electronic QSL card exchange for amateur radio operators and SWLs. It is designed to be the fastest, easiest, and cheapest way to exchange QSO confirmations, eliminating the cost and time that regular QSL cards have required for the past half century.

Logbook of the World

eQSL.cc should not be confused with [*Logbook of the World*](#) (LoTW) from ARRL. LoTW is not a QSL exchange. The LoTW system is a repository of log records submitted by users from around the world. When both participants in a QSO submit matching QSO records to LoTW, the result is a QSL that can be used for ARRL award credit.

To minimize the chance of fraudulent submissions to LoTW, all QSO records must be digitally signed using a digital certificate obtained from ARRL. Obtaining such a certificate requires verification of the licensee's identity either through mail verification (US) or inspection by ARRL of required documentation (non-US).

Logbook of the World is not a backup or on-line storage of your logs and it does not replace paper QSL cards. Many hams enjoy swapping and collecting QSL cards and are encouraged to go on with this time honored tradition in addition to using LoTW. Using LoTW saves you the hassle of sending your QSL cards to ARRL headquarters for verification.

eQSL

The eQSL.cc website was launched in April of 2000 and included about 1500 hams who had been part of an earlier experiment in an electronic QSL card exchange. The idea was that eQSLs should not be sent around from person to person via email, but should be available at any time through a web-based exchange system and a central database. Other concepts such as sending QSL cards by email or by posting one stock QSL card on a web page and calling it an eQSL were not satisfactory, because security could not be guaranteed, email addresses had to be looked up, and the sender had to laboriously design his QSL card using graphic design software.

Once you have signed up, your eQSLs can be retrieved from the eQSL website by entering your callsign, the date, and the band of the QSO you want to retrieve and if the other ham has entered that QSO into the system, you can print that QSL card on your local printer.

If you are into digital QSOs and use DM 780 you can send your eQSLs automatically from the software. You must log into the eQSL website to retrieve any eQSLs, however.

eQSL.cc will archive your received QSL cards on their website for no charge.

Outgoing QSL card designs can be chosen from a database of simple designs. If you donate to eQSL.cc, you can upload your own design to be sent out.

eQSL also has a series of awards that are available for qualifying stations, including Worked All States (eWAS). There are also some awards available from [*CQ Magazine*](#). See the [*eQSL website*](#) for details.