



In-Mexico Program Backend Developer Certification

Server and Database Commands

Technical Report

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Introduction

The Google Scholar API via SerpApi allows you to scrape and extract academic research data from Google Scholar without manually browsing the website.

Authorization

Authentication is done with a SerpApi API key. Add it as a query parameter in order to use the API properly.

The key is given when creating a SerpApi account.

Example:

https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=AI&api_key=YOUR_KEY

Endpoints

Endpoint	Description
GET https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar	Scholar Search: Articles, cases, citations
GET https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar_author	Scholar Author: Profile, articles, citations, co-authors
GET https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar_author	Account API: Check usage and limits

Query parameters

engine

Requirement level: **Required**

Proper name: SerpApi engine

Description:

Selects the SerpApi engine. Use engine=google_scholar for article searches or engine=google_scholar_author for author profiles.

Example:

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=AI&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

api_key

Requirement level: **Required**

Proper name: API key (authentication)

Description:

Your SerpApi private key. Required for all requests; keep secret and use environment variables.

Example:

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=AI&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

q

Requirement level: **Required (unless using cites or cluster alone)**

Proper name: Search query

Description:

Free-text search string. Use + or %20 for spaces and helpers like author: or source: to narrow results.

Example:

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=deep+learning&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

cites

Requirement level: Optional

Proper name: Cited-by ID

Description:

Return documents that cite a given article. Useful for citation tracking and impact analysis. Makes q optional; with q searches within citing docs.

Example:

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&cites=1275980731835430123&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

cluster

Requirement level: Optional

Proper name: All-versions ID (cluster)

Description:

Return all versions of a paper. Use alone (do not combine with q or cites). Useful to find PDFs and preprints.

Example:

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&cluster=1275980731835430123&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

as_ylo / as_yhi

Requirement level: Optional

Proper name: Year range (from/to)

Description:

Filter results by publication year range. Combine as_ylo (from) and as_yhi (to) to limit results to a date window.

Example:

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=reinforcement+learning&as_ylo=2019&as_yhi=2024&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

start / num

Requirement level: Optional

Proper name: Pagination (offset and page size)

Description:

Use start to offset results and num to set results per page. For google_scholar num is 1–20. Use together for paging through results.

Example:

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=AI&start=20&num=10&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

hl

Requirement level: Optional

Proper name: Interface language (hl)

Description:

Set UI language / localization (two-letter code). Can affect labels and localized result ordering.

Example:

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=machine+learning&hl=en&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

no_cache

Requirement level: Optional

Proper name: No-cache (fresh fetch)

Description:

Set no_cache=true to bypass SerpApi cache and fetch fresh results. Cached identical searches are free for ~1 hour.

Example:

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=AI&no_cache=true&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

output

Requirement level: Optional

Proper name: Output format

Description:

Set output=json (default) for structured results or output=html for raw HTML capture.

Example:

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=AI&output=json&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

json_restrictor

Requirement level: Optional

Proper name: JSON restrictor (field selector)

Description:

Return only selected fields to reduce response size and speed parsing. Useful in production to save bandwidth.

Example:

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=AI&json_restrictor=organic_results.title,organic_results.link&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

author_id

Requirement level: Required when using engine=google_scholar_author

Proper name: Author profile ID

Description:

Use with engine=google_scholar_author to fetch an author's profile, articles, and citations.

Example:

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar_author&author_id=LSsXyncAAAAJ&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

Common composite examples

1) Topic search with year filter + pagination (useful for literature review pages):

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=reinforcement+learning&as_ylo=2018&as_yhi=2024&start=0&num=20&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

2) Cited-by search (find all papers that cite a high-impact paper):

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&cites=1275980731835430123&num=20&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

3) Author profile (get up to 100 articles sorted by pubdate):

```
https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar_author&author_id=LSsXyncAAAAJ&num=100&sort=pubdate&api_key=YOUR_KEY
```

In case for more information about query parameters go to the official documentation:

<https://serpapi.com/google-scholar-api>

Response formats

Responses are returned in JSON by default. Example fields:

- search_metadata: Info about request.
- organic_results: Search results (Scholar Search).
- author, articles, cited_by: Author data.

Here to see more response examples: <https://serpapi.com/google-scholar-api>

Example of JSON response:

```
{
  "search_metadata": {
    "id": "68dc7531d02d2a9f6ae0efce",
    "status": "Success",
    "json_endpoint": "https://serpapi.com/searches/136041407d76524f/68dc7531d02d2a9f6ae0efce.json",
    "created_at": "2025-10-01 00:26:25 UTC",
    "processed_at": "2025-10-01 00:26:25 UTC",
    "google_scholar_url": "https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=biology&hl=en",
    "raw_html_file": "https://serpapi.com/searches/136041407d76524f/68dc7531d02d2a9f6ae0efce.html",
    "total_time_taken": 0.43
  },
  "search_parameters": {
    "engine": "google_scholar",
    "q": "biology",
    "hl": "en"
  },
  "search_information": {
    "organic_results_state": "Results for exact spelling",
    "total_results": 7030000,
    "time_taken_displayed": 0.06,
    "query_displayed": "biology"
  },
  "organic_results": [
    {
      "position": 0,
      "title": "Population biology of plants.",
      "result_id": "JC4Acibs_4kJ",
      "link": "https://www.cabdirect.org/cabdirect/abstract/19782321379",
      "snippet": "The first chapter is concerned with experiments, analogies and models.",
      "publication_info": {
        "summary": "JL Harper - Population biology of plants., 1977 - cabdirect.org"
      },
      "inline_links": {
        "serpapi_cite_link": "https://serpapi.com/search.json?engine=google_scholar_cite&",
        "cited_by": {
          "total": 14003,
          "link": "https://scholar.google.com/scholar?cites=9943926152122871332&as_sdt=5,",
          "cites_id": "9943926152122871332",
          "serpapi_scholar_link": "https://serpapi.com/search.json?cites=9943926152122871"
        },
        "related_pages_link": "https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=related:JC4Acibs_4kJ:",
        "serpapi_related_pages_link": "https://serpapi.com/search.json?as_sdt=0%2C38&engi",
        "versions": {

```

Usage limits

Plan	Price (monthly)	Monthly Searches	Notes
Free	\$0	250	Free tier
Developer	\$75	5,000	Paid monthly
Production	\$150	15,000	Paid monthly
Big Data	\$275	30,000	Paid monthly
Enterprise	Custom	Custom	

For more information: <https://serpapi.com/pricing>

Code examples

Java

```
import java.net.http.*;
import java.net.URI;
import java.nio.charset.StandardCharsets;

public class Example {
    public static void main(String[] args) throws Exception {
        String url = "https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=AI&api_key=YOUR_KEY";

        HttpRequest req = HttpRequest.newBuilder()
            .uri(URI.create(url))
            .header("Accept", "application/json")
            .GET()
            .build();

        HttpClient client = HttpClient.newHttpClient();
        HttpResponse<String> res = client.send(req, HttpResponse.BodyHandlers.ofString(StandardCharsets.UTF_8));

        System.out.println(res.body());
    }
}
```

Python

```
import requests

url = "https://serpapi.com/search"
params = {
    "engine": "google_scholar",
    "q": "machine learning",
    "api_key": "YOUR_KEY"
}

res = requests.get(url, params=params)
print(res.status_code)
print(res.json()) # parsed JSON response
```

Javascript

```
import fetch from "node-fetch";

const url = "https://serpapi.com/search?engine=google_scholar&q=data+science&api_key=YOUR_KEY";

fetch(url)
    .then(res => {
        if (!res.ok) throw new Error(`HTTP ${res.status}`);
        return res.json();
    })
    .then(data => console.log(JSON.stringify(data, null, 2)))
    .catch(err => console.error("Fetch error:", err));
```