



Gold Open Access

and how to apply for funding

What is Open Access?

Open Access (OA) makes research outputs accessible to all for free. It helps you to increase your readership, raise your profile and increase your impact.

What is 'Gold' Open Access?

'Gold' Open Access means that the final version of your article (the publisher's pdf) will be free for anyone to read and download on the journal's website. Publishers often charge an Article Processing Charge (APC) to cover their costs. Some publishers offer 'Gold' Open Access for monographs and book chapters.

Why choose 'Gold' Open Access?

The publisher's pdf will be freely available to everyone with an Internet connection immediately on publication and it will be easily discoverable on the journal's website.

'Gold' OA	'Green' OA
publisher's pdf on publisher's website	final peer-reviewed manuscript on institutional repository
available immediately on publication	may be subject to an embargo period
usually requires payment of a fee (APC)	there are no costs

How much does 'Gold' Open Access cost?

The cost varies between a few hundred and a few thousand pounds, depending on the journal you wish to submit to. The Library has arrangements with some publishers to eliminate or reduce the cost:

- **Springer Open Choice** - it is free for SHU corresponding authors to publish 'Gold' Open Access in eligible Springer hybrid journals.
- **Sage and Taylor & Francis.** Charges are reduced by 75% to 90% in eligible journals*.
- **Springer Open, BioMed Central and Royal Society of Chemistry.** Charges are reduced by 10% to 15% in eligible journals*.

*You will need to apply for funding to cover the remaining cost.

Sources of funding

You may be able to get funding for 'Gold' Open Access as part of your research grant or from your research funder.

Alternatively, the Library has a **SHU Open Access fund** which is used to support 'Gold' Open Access for selected papers.

Applying for funding

To apply for funding, please complete the form '**I request support for Gold Open Access**' which is available at: <https://blogs.shu.ac.uk/libraryresearchsupport/open-access-funding/>.

Please turn over for more information

Application criteria

The **criteria** under which you can make a case for funding include:

- your research is funded by UKRI (formerly RCUK).
- your article is to be submitted to a journal published by Sage or Taylor & Francis which offers heavily reduced APCs for SHU authors.
- Career kick-start. You are an **early career researcher** - staff who are new, or returning to research and want to engage with research. Or you are a **maternity, adoption and/or parental leave returner** in the first 24 months back at work after a period of leave of 26 weeks or longer.
- your work is likely to contribute to the next REF submission.
- the best fit journal for your research is an Open-Access-only journal.
- the research findings are likely to be high profile or impactful in terms of news coverage and public interest.
- your research output aligns with the UK Global Challenges Research Fund or the UK Industrial Strategy.
- your research output is a monograph or monograph chapter.

Given the limits to resources, both the research and the journal you wish to submit your work to, must meet certain quality criteria to be eligible for funding. If you are applying for funding under the career kick-start or under the REF criteria, part of the approval process will be an assessment by the appropriate Unit of Assessment Co-ordinator.

When to apply

Because funds are limited, support cannot be guaranteed. You should confirm funding is available before submitting your work to a journal.

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If you publish your research 'Gold' Open Access, your research will usually be distributed under one of the Creative Commons Licenses. Your funder may require your article to be distributed under a particular licence. Please make sure you select the appropriate licence when communicating with your publisher.

The REF requirements

In order to be eligible for the next REF, the **final peer-reviewed manuscript** of any article in a journal or conference proceedings with an ISSN number:

- **must be deposited in the SHU Research Archive (SHURA, <http://shura.shu.ac.uk>) ; do this by adding the manuscript to Elements (<http://elements.shu.ac.uk>)**
- **must be deposited within three months of the date of acceptance**

You must also provide proof of the date of acceptance. This will usually be an email or letter from the journal editor or conference organiser.

More information and support

website:

<https://blogs.shu.ac.uk/libraryresearchsupport/publishing/open-access/>

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