Funding Gold Open Access Publishing

Gold Open Access is where an author publishes an article which is made openly accessibly by the publisher, sometimes for a fee, known as an "article processing charge" (APC) which covers publication costs.

Do I always have to pay a fee when publishing in an open access journal?

» Some OA journals do not charge authors for publishing costs, but instead are funded by other means such as through universities, or professional bodies and societies.

» However, there are also many OA journals where article processing charges (APCs) are payable by authors, in order to cover publishing costs in lieu of subscription revenue. APCs can range from 100 euro to over 3,000 euro depending on the publication.

How much does it cost to publish an open access book?

Book processing charges (BPCs) can vary and depend on a variety of factors including:

» Word count

» Level of service required (e.g. full copy-editing)

» Option for the publisher to generate revenue by selling alternative formats, such as print, for a fee

Approximate costs can range between 8,000 to 15,000 euro.

Self-publishing options are typically less expensive but often do not offer the same range of services as commercial publishers e.g. peer review, marketing etc.

Where can I find a list of reputable open access publishers & journals?

» The Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ.org) currently lists approx. 9000 OA journals across all disciplines. DOAJ aims to cover all open access scientific and scholarly journals that use a quality control system to guarantee the content.

» You can browse DOAJ by subject to identify reputable OA journals in your field, including editorial information and APCs payable by authors, where applicable.

How can I fund an APC or BPC?

» At present, UCD does not currently provide centralised funding specifically for covering APCs, as it is often expected that such fees are paid for from research grants (School or Institute arrangements may differ). Some publishers offer waivers or discounts for those who are not undertaking funded research.

Contact: Michelle Dalton, Scholarly Communications Librarian, UCD Library; email: michelle.dalton@ucd.ie

website: http://libguides.ucd.ie/openaccess | http://libguides.ucd.ie/publishing; tel: (01) 716 7530

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