



UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS & COPYRIGHT POLICY GUIDANCE

This page gives you an overview of the [updated UoE open access policy](#). The policy applies to **all peer-reviewed research articles which are published in either a journal or conference proceedings, which are authored or co-authored by a UoE staff members with responsibility for research, and which are submitted on or after 1 April 2022**. The policy explicitly excludes monographs, edited collections, textbooks, and book chapters.

SUMMARY OF THE POLICY AND REQUIREMENTS

Upon acceptance for publication, each staff member with responsibility for research agrees to grant the University of Edinburgh a non-exclusive, irrevocable licence to make accepted manuscripts publicly available immediately on publication under the terms of a Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) licence.

The following statement must be included in ALL submissions to peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings:

For the purpose of open access, the author has applied a Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) licence to any Author Accepted Manuscript version arising from this submission.

This statement should be included in the funding acknowledgement section of the manuscript and any cover letter that accompanies the submission. Note that embargoes on accepted manuscripts are not permitted under this policy.

CHECKLIST FOR AUTHORS

Before submitting an article to a journal

- Inform co-authors about University of Edinburgh requirements to share the manuscript upon publication with a CC BY licence.
- Include the following statement in your submission: *For the purpose of open access, the author has applied a Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) licence to any Author Accepted Manuscript version arising from this submission.*

After acceptance

- Deposit your accepted manuscript in Pure as soon as possible.

After publication

- Add the publication date and the doi or link in Pure as soon as possible and no later than 1 month after publication.

OPTING OUT OF THE POLICY

Staff can opt out of the requirement for immediate open access upon publication and/or the assignment of a CC BY licence for a specific output. We have not yet been provided with detailed guidance on the



procedure for opting out; in the meantime if you want or need to opt out of the policy or require further assistance, please contact PPLSOpenResearch@ed.ac.uk

RELATIONSHIP TO FUNDER OPEN ACCESS POLICIES

Funders such as UKRI (encompassing e.g. the ESRC, AHRC) and Wellcome have their own open access policies which apply to publications acknowledging support from those funders; see the links at the end of this document for their full policies. Articles which comply with this new UoE Open Access policy will also comply with Route 2 to compliance for UKRI and Wellcome (which also requires authors to release the Author Accepted Manuscript under a CC BY license at the time of publication). **Note that while staff can opt out of the UoE policy, there is in general no such opt-out for funder open access requirements.**

RELATIONSHIP TO REF 2021 OPEN ACCESS POLICIES

In order for research articles and conference proceedings to be included in the Research Excellence Framework 2021, authors were required to upload Author Accepted Manuscripts to Pure on acceptance, although those manuscripts were allowed to be embargoed rather than being made available immediately. This policy remains in place, and we anticipate that the next REF will have similar or more stringent open access requirements. Articles which comply with this new UoE Open Access policy will also be compliant with the REF 2021 requirements. **Note that while staff can opt out of the UoE policy, there is in general no such opt-out for REF 2021 requirements**, i.e. authors opting out of the new UoE Open Access policy should still follow previous practices of uploading their Author Accepted Manuscript to Pure for release after any embargo period.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- The University of Edinburgh confirms the current practice that members of staff own the copyright to their scholarly works.
- When selecting a journal, we encourage authors to check if the University of Edinburgh has a “read and publish” agreement with the publisher; you might be eligible to publish your article Gold Open Access with a Creative Commons licence at no extra charge (in addition to releasing the Author Accepted Manuscript as per this policy). A fully searchable list of eligible journals can be found [here](#).

LINKS

- UoE open access policy in full: <https://edin.ac/3Ali1Z1>
- UKRI Open Access policy: <https://edin.ac/3sMDIGA>
- Wellcome Open Access policy: <https://edin.ac/3vMq2NW>
- Plan S: <https://edin.ac/372P8gV>

CONTACT

For further information about open access policies, please contact PPLSOpenResearch@ed.ac.uk
