

TOP 10

Tips For Open Access Publishing

Choosing the open access option that is the best fit isn't always simple.

In today's world, choosing the right journal that allows you to meet your funders' open access policy is new territory. ACS offers fully open access journals, hybrid journals, and licenses to allow authors around the world to meet their funders' policies.

Follow these steps to make the best choice for your manuscript.

To learn more about ACS Open Science Options, visit acsopencience.org.

1 Each manuscript is unique

Each manuscript has a unique combination of author affiliations and funders. Journals (ACS and other publishers) offer different options for authors to meet open access needs.



2 Check with your PI and decide before submission

A manuscript's unique open access needs should be identified before submission. A good first step is checking with the PI. If the PI doesn't already know the answer, take the next steps outlined here.



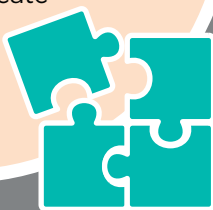
3 Collect all Funders

Make sure that all coauthors understand the importance of this step. Collect a list of all funders to be acknowledged in a manuscript.



6 Identify Journals that Fit

In addition to considering journal subject coverage, reach, targeted audience, you may also need to consider journal open access status. Create a list of journals to consider.



5 Identify Most Restrictive Elements of Funder Policies as Guide

A rule of thumb is that the more restrictive (e.g., CC-BY over any license, fully OA journal over any journal, immediate deposit versus 6 or 12 months deposit) are the guideposts for identifying an appropriate journal.



4 Research Funders Policies

For each funder, locate their open access policy page and understand their requirements and the consequences of noncompliance.



7 Understand Costs and Funding Options

Each publisher and journal has a different cost and different options available. You can learn more at acsopencience.org/openaccess/pricing/ and acsopencience.org/read-publish-agreements/.



8 Communicate Plan to PIs

The corresponding author should use this information to propose the best journal(s) to the PIs, explain any costs and how paid, and seek the PI support prior to submission.



9 Check with the Funder

If you continue to have questions about a funder's open access policy, check directly with the funder.



10 Check with the Publisher

If you continue to have questions about a journal's open access policy, check with the publisher (support@services.acs.org).

