

Open Access Guidance Document

Curtin is recognised for applied and practical research, focused on solving real-world problems. To maximise the impact and ensure the research benefits the broader community locally, nationally and globally, findings of the research should be disseminated as broadly as possible.

Materials published in <u>open access journals</u> or <u>digital research repositories</u> can be accessed without barriers by anyone via the Internet. The term open access describes the nature of access, rather than a specific business model, licence or type of content. Within scholarly publishing, open access refers to material that is:

- Online and digital
- Without cost to access
- Peer reviewed research
- Compliant with copyright legislation
- Free of access barriers created by financial, legal or technical issues.

Research made available through open access has the greatest potential audience that includes government agencies, policy makers, practitioners, charities and non-government organisations, industry and business and the general public. The increased visibility and reach of open access material can contribute to maximising the impact of the research.

Maximising the proportion of research freely available will raise the profile of Curtin as a research-intensive institution and demonstrate the University's commitment to the global movement to provide public access to publicly funded research. Open access is mandated by many national and international funding agencies including the Australian Research Council and the National Health and Medical Research Council.

Under the Intellectual Freedom Policy and the Authorship, Peer Review and Publication of Research Findings Policy researchers are free to select the most appropriate outlets to disseminate their research findings. The University strongly encourages researchers to give preference to open access where possible, with consideration to the following:

- Articles in open access journals are freely available to the public from the publisher's website. Some open access journals require an article processing charge (APC) from the author. Authors are encouraged to include publication costs where it is an allowable expenditure within a project budget. The University does not provide a central fund for the specific purpose of covering these charges.
- 2. Articles in subscription journals can be made open access via espace. As outlined in the Authorship, Peer Review and Publication of Research Findings Policy, Curtin authors should ensure their publication details are updated in Elements in a timely manner and upload a copy of the final accepted manuscript for depositing into espace. The Library will, where possible, with respect to publisher permissions, make the full text of Curtin research available open access in espace.

For further information, please contact OpenAccess@curtin.edu.au.