

## Summary of Open Access publishing

This is a brief summary of Open Access publishing. More information is available at [LU Libraries Open Access infopages](#) and many of the links will direct you to pages at that site.

### What is Open Access publishing?

Open Access publishing is when the researcher gives free online access to his/her publications. Since 2006, Lund University has a publishing policy, where the board of Lund University **recommends** researchers to, if possible, give free access to their research publications. Moreover, many research funders demand publications that are a result of their funding must be published open access.

### Open Access – demands from research funders

Demands that publically funded research must be freely available are being raised by, among others, the following research funders: [The Swedish Research Council](#), [Seventh Framework Programme \(FP7\)](#), [Formas](#), [European Research Council \(ERC\)](#), [Riksbankens Jubileumsfond](#).

### How do you make your publications open access?

There are two ways of OA-publishing:

**Golden OA** - when you publish in an [Open Access journal](#).

**Green OA** - when you publish Open Access through [self-archiving](#). Self-archiving is when you add a copy of the last Accepted Author Manuscript (AAM) version to an institutional repository, i.e. **Lund University Publications (LUP)**. Most often the publishers require a so-called embargo period of 6, 12 or 24 months which is the period when access to the publication is only allowed to users who have paid for access (=subscription).

### Golden OA - Open Access Journals

An open access journal is freely available to all users without subscription costs. To cover the publishing costs most OA journals charge a publishing fee, a so called Article Publishing Cost (APC). At Lund University there is a publishing fund which covers 50% of the APC when you publish in an OA journal, provided that the journal meets certain quality criteria. More info at [Funding for the article processing cost in open access journals](#)

### Golden OA - Hybrid journals

In so called hybrid journals there is an option to buy open access to individual articles, but the journal as a whole requires subscription to be read. If the author chose to publish the article with free access, a publishing fee must be paid. Publishing in hybrid journals, where only some articles are freely available, will be OK for fulfilling the research funder's demands for OA publishing **but it is not supported by the LU fund for article processing costs**.

### OA-journals

Here's [information about OA-journals](#). NB! Most publishers offer hybrid journals – **the publishing cost for OA in hybrid journals are not covered by the fund**.

To find a more complete listing, the possibility to search by subject etc. use the [Directory of Open Access Journals \(DOAJ\)](#).

Non-serious OA-publishers is a growing problem, see [information about dubious publishers here](#) together with some advice about things to look for when considering an unknown publisher or journal.

[Beall's list](#) is a list of questionable scholarly open-access publishers.

### **Green OA – a possible solution if you publish in a subscription based journal and your funder demands open access.**

An alternative to golden OA is to self-archive the article in LUP. Most funders approve of self-archiving as OA publishing if certain criteria are fulfilled. Many of the Swedish research funders demand a maximum embargo period (= the period during which access to the publication is only allowed to users who have paid for access) of no more than 6 months while many publishers require 12 or 24 months embargo period. This is obviously not compatible, and some funders i.e. the **Swedish Research Council** solve this problem by a so-called **Best effort**: "If a publisher's standard agreement does not permit parallel publication (=self-archiving) within 6 months, the researcher must demand that the publisher make an exception. The parties concerned may use the supplementary agreement that you find [here](#). If the publisher does not accept these terms, the researcher should publish in another journal. Only in exceptional cases can the Swedish Research Council extend the period preceding open access (up to 12 months maximum), under the condition that the researcher can document his/her efforts to meet the 6-month requirement [More about self-archiving here](#)

To find more info on publishers/journals self-archiving policy use the database [SHERPA/ROMEO](#)

Some publishers have the same OA-policy for all their subscription-based journals i.e. Springer, read more at <http://www.springer.com/gp/open-access/springer-open-choice> click Authors' rights for information about Springer's self-archiving policy. Other publishers have different OA- policies for different journals, and the OA-instructions may sometimes be hard to interpret.

**Questions?** Contact [Kristina Arnebrant](#) at the [Biology Library](#) or send a mail to [Publicera@lub.lu.se](mailto:Publicera@lub.lu.se)