



**University of Idaho**  
Library

# **Six Questions You Need to Ask Before Publishing a Journal Article**

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# Questions we're covering today

1. What publishing model should I pursue?
2. How do I find a relevant journal?
3. What can I expect from peer-review?
4. What are the submission requirements?
5. What are my rights as an author?
6. How can I track the impact of my work?

# 1. What publishing model should I pursue?



- Subscription/toll-access journals
- Fully open access journals
- Hybrid open access journals

# 1. What publishing model should I pursue?



- Subscription/toll-access journals
  - Only publish articles that are available to subscribers
    - Readers or their institutions pay fees to access articles
      - Usually, authors are not required to pay any fees\*

# 1. What publishing model should I pursue?



- Subscription/toll-access journals
  - Examples:
    - *Advances in Space Research*: \$6,412.00
    - *Applied Linguistics*: \$683.00

Average subscription cost ranged from \$492.00 in the Humanities to \$2,479.00 in STEM disciplines

# 1. What publishing model should I pursue?



- Fully open access journals
  - Only publish open access articles
    - Every article published in a fully open access journal is free for anyone, anywhere to read immediately
    - Some charge fees called article processing charges (APCs), but some don't
  - [Directory of Open Access Journals \(DOAJ\)](#)

# 1. What publishing model should I pursue?



- Fully open access journals
  - Examples
    - *Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology*: \$2,950.00
    - *College & Research Libraries*: \$0.00
  - Funding options at the U of I
    - [University of Idaho – Open Access Publishing Fund](#)
    - [U of I's Graduate and Professional Student Association Publishing Award](#)

# 1. What publishing model should I pursue?



- Hybrid open access journals
  - Publish articles that are only available to subscribers
    - BUT – offer authors the *option* to pay to publish their article open access
  - OA articles are free for anyone, anywhere to read immediately; all others are only available to subscribers



# 1. What publishing model should I pursue?



- Hybrid open access journals
  - Examples
    - *Forest Ecology and Management*: \$3,360.00
    - *Nature*  $\approx$  \$11,200.00
    - [Wellcome Trust](#): Median  $\approx$  \$3,400.00
  - Funding options at the U of I
    - [U of I's Graduate and Professional Student Association Publishing Award](#)

## 2. How do I find a relevant journal?

- Colleagues
  - [VIVO](#)
- Online lists
  - [Journal Citation Reports™ \(Web of Science™\)](#)
  - [SCImago Journal Rank](#)
  - [Web of Science Master Journal List™: Match Manuscript](#)
  - [Ulrichsweb™ Global Serials Directory](#)

## 2. How do I find a relevant journal?

- Publisher/journal websites
  - Journal scope and audience
  - Editorial feedback vs. direct submission

# 3. What are the submission requirements?



- Things to consider, include:
  - Content and tone of samples articles
  - Required documents
  - Anonymization
  - Citation style
  - ORCID iD

## 4. What can I expect from peer-review?

- Lots of different types:
  - Single-blind peer-review
  - Double-blind peer-review
  - Transparent peer-review
  - Open peer-review
  - Collaborative peer-review
  - Results-free peer-review

## 4. What can I expect from peer-review?

- Single-blind peer-review
  - The identity of the author is known by the reviewers, but the author doesn't know the reviewers' identities
- Double-blind peer-review
  - Neither the reviewers nor the authors know each other's identities

## 4. What can I expect from peer-review?

- Transparent peer-review
  - The “peer-reviewers’ reports, author’s responses, and editor’s decision letters are published alongside the accepted article”
    - Peer-review reports might remain anonymous

## 4. What can I expect from peer-review?

- Open peer-review
  - “The identit[ies] of the author and the reviewers [are] known by all participants
    - Peer-review reports may also be published alongside the article



## 4. What can I expect from peer-review?

- Collaborative peer-review
  - “Two or more reviewers work together to submit a unified report”
- OR –
  - “...reviewers collaborate with the author to improve the paper, until it reaches a publishable standard.”

## 4. What can I expect from peer-review?

- Results-free peer-review
  - Editors and reviewers are blinded to the study's results during the initial stage of peer-review
  - Two stages:
    - Stage 1: Review of an article, excluding any results or discussion or results
    - Stage 2: If accepted after Stage 1, review of a complete article to check that the results and conclusions do not deviate unjustifiably from the research question and methodology

## 4. What can I expect from peer-review?

- Become a peer-reviewer
  - [Springer Nature: How to Peer Review](#)
  - [Sage Publishing: How to Be a Peer Reviewer](#)
  - [Wiley Reviewer Academy](#)
  - [Elsevier Certified Peer Reviewer Course](#)

## 5. What are my rights as an author?

- Copyright
- Copyright transfer agreements
- Sharing and self-archiving

## 5. What are my rights as an author?

- Copyright
  - Is automatic
  - Covers published and unpublished work
  - Applies regardless of format
- Copyright owners have the *exclusive* right to reproduce, adapt, distribute, perform, or display a work publicly

# 5. What are my rights as an author?

- Copyright transfer agreements
  - ...[transfer] the copyright for a work from the copyright owner to another party.”
- [Example copyright transfer agreement](#)

## 5. What are my rights as an author?

- Sharing and self-archiving
  - Check with journals/publishers to see what they allow
    - Article versions
    - Embargos
    - Sharing locations

# 5. What are my rights as an author?

- Article versions
  - Author's original manuscript / submitted version / pre-print
    - “The version that has been submitted to a journal for peer review (p. 11).
  - Accepted manuscript / accepted version / post-print
    - “The final author-created version that incorporates referee comments and is the accepted for publication version” (p. 11)



# 5. What are my rights as an author?

- Article versions
  - Proof
    - “A version of a journal article that is created as part of the publication process. This includes the copy-edited manuscript [and various proofs]. Some of these versions...are commonly released from the internal environment (e.g. proofs are sent to authors) and may thus become public, even though they are not authorized to be so” (p. 3)

# 5. What are my rights as an author?

- Article versions
  - Version of record / publisher version / final published version
    - “The publisher-created published version, that has been peer-reviewed and copy edited” (p. 11)

## 6. How can I track the impact of my work?



- Journal-level impact
- Article-level impact
- Author-level impact

## 6. How can I track the impact of my work?

- Journal-level
  - Journal Impact Factor™
    - “...used as a proxy for the relative importance of a journal within its field.”
    - Where to find:
      - [Journal Citation Reports™ \(Web of Science™\)](#)

## 6. How can I track the impact of my work?

- Journal-level
  - SCImago Journal Rank
    - “...a measure of the scientific influence of scholarly journals...”
    - Where to find:
      - [SCImago Journal & Country Rank](https://www.scimagojr.com/)

# 6. How can I track the impact of my work?



- Article-level
  - Citation counts
    - [Web of Science™](#)
    - [Google Scholar](#)

# 6. How can I track the impact of my work?



- Article-level
  - Altmetrics
    - “...metrics and qualitative data that are complementary to traditional, citation-based metrics.”
    - Classification
      - ❑ Record of attention
      - ❑ Measure of dissemination
      - ❑ Indicator of influence and impact

## 6. How can I track the impact of my work?

- Article-level
  - Altmetrics
    - Where to find:
      - Individual article pages
      - [Altmetric Bookmarklet](#)



## 6. How can I track the impact of my work?

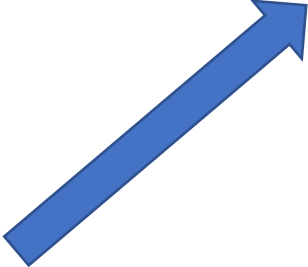
- Author-level
  - *h*-index
    - “...measures both the productivity and citation impact of the publications of a scientist or scholar.”
    - How to calculate:
      - List articles in descending order by times cited
      - The value of *h* is equal to the number of articles in the list that have been cited at least *h* times



# 6. How can I track the impact of my work?

- Author-level
  - *h*-index

Articles	Times cited
1	25
2	14
3	11
4	9
5	7
6	5



***h*-index = 5**  
The author has published at least 5 articles that have been cited at least 5 times each

## 6. How can I track the impact of my work?

- Author-level
  - *h*-index
    - Where to find:
      - ❑ [Web of Science Core Collection™ “author search”](#)
      - ❑ [Scopus® “author search”](#)



# Graduate Student Essentials

~~September 7: 10 Essential Library Skills to Ace Graduate School~~

~~September 14: Six Questions You Need to Ask Before Publishing a Journal Article~~

September 21: Web Mapping for Every Discipline – How to Use ArcGIS Online

September 28: 7 Tips To Make Your Data Management Life Easier

October 5: Drop-In Citation Management Help