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Securing humankind's vital resources

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J-WAFS Policy on Open-Access Publishing

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J-WAFS has adopted an open-access (OA) policy¹ for research awarded by J-WAFS and funded through MIT's endowment and other gifts to the Institute. J-WAFS researchers should familiarize themselves with this policy and consider it when selecting journals in which to publish J-WAFS-funded research.

The rationale for the OA policy is that J-WAFS (as a part of MIT) is a non-profit, charitable organization with a mission of contributing to human knowledge. The knowledge created should be freely accessible to everyone.

J-WAFS OA policy has two elements:

- 1) all J-WAFS funded papers must be available open-access as soon as possible and no later than 1 year after publication;
- 2) if authors choose to pay for open access, the use of J-WAFS funds for article processing charges is capped.

This J-WAFS OA policy will be incorporated into the terms and conditions of J-WAFS research grants, to which PIs agree when accepting J-WAFS funds. Opting out of this J-WAFS OA policy is not allowed for PIs who receive J-WAFS funding.

1. J-WAFS open access requirement

As a condition of receiving J-WAFS funding, PIs must grant MIT a non-exclusive license to any scholarly articles that result from the J-WAFS funding under the same terms as [MIT's Faculty Open Access Policy](#), wherein an author "grants to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology nonexclusive permission to make available his or her scholarly articles and to exercise the copyright in those articles for the purpose of open dissemination."²

In addition, the final manuscript of any publication that results from J-WAFS' funding must be deposited in MIT's open-access collection, which is housed in [DSpace@MIT](#), no later than one

¹ This [open-access] article discusses the issues surrounding open-access publishing: *Science*, 1 Jan 2021: 371(6524):16-20. DOI: 10.1126/science.371.6524.16 <https://science.sciencemag.org/content/371/6524/16>.

Existing federal policy requires final published versions of papers to be deposited in an OA repository (such as NIH's PubMed Central) within 12 months.

² For faculty PIs, this grant of rights to MIT is automatic under the Faculty Open Access Policy (and opting out of that Policy is not permitted for J-WAFS funded articles). Non-faculty PIs, who are not subject to the Faculty Open Access Policy, must grant the same rights to MIT as a condition to receiving J-WAFS funding.



year after publication. “Final manuscript” refers to the final, post-review text before typesetting by the publisher.

Alternatively, PIs may publish J-WAFS-funded research as an open-access journal paper. This may require paying an open-access article processing charge (OA APC) imposed by the publisher.

Note that some journals’ publishing agreements do not allow posting the final manuscript within one year of publication. In that case, the PIs must pay an APC in order to comply with J-WAFS’ policy.

MIT Libraries have arranged free or discounted open-access publication with several leading publishers, as described here:

<https://libraries.mit.edu/scholarly/publishing/oa-publishing-support/>

For assistance navigating these discounts, PIs may contact staff at the MIT Libraries via scholarlypub@mit.edu.

2. Policy on open-access article-processing charges (OA APCs):

- a) PIs must request approval to use J-WAFS funds for OA APCs by emailing Renee Robins (rrobbins@mit.edu). In most cases, the APC will be charged to the PI’s existing J-WAFS account. The email should specifically address items (b-e) that follow.
- b) J-WAFS funds may be used to *fully* pay OA APCs only if J-WAFS is acknowledged in the published paper as the *sole* sponsor of the work.
- c) If more than one sponsor supported the work, J-WAFS’ coverage of OA APCs is reduced proportionally. For example, if three sponsors are involved, J-WAFS will cover no more than 1/3 of the fee.
- d) J-WAFS’ funding for an OA APC is limited to \$3,500 per paper (untenured faculty may request exceptions).
- e) J-WAFS researchers are encouraged to apply for up to \$1,000 of support from the [MIT Open Access fund](#), which helps cover publication costs in fully open-access journals.
- f) J-WAFS will not pay other kinds of APCs, e.g., for color artwork or reprints.