

## Open Access Publishing

McMaster Library supports Open Access (OA) Publishing and is happy to assist faculty and students that are interested in making their work freely available.

### [Advantageous of Open Access Publishing](#)

- You can adhere to the [Tri-Agency Policy on Publications](#) in one of two ways:
  - "Submit your manuscript to a journal that offers immediate open access or offers open access to the paper on its website within 12 months of publication."
  - "Submit your manuscript to a journal that does not offer open access, but will permit you to archive the peer-reviewed manuscript in a central or institutional repository within 12 months of publication."
- Final peer-reviewed version of your work will be openly available on the publisher's website and discoverable wherever the publisher has indexed it leading to:
  - increased interaction resulting in increased number of views and citations
  - improved education and public access

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### [Find Open Access Journals](#)

1. Use the [Directory of Open Access Journals \(DOAJ\)](#) to browse journals connected to your research interests.
2. Follow [Canadian Association of Research Libraries \(CARL\)](#) guidelines for assessing journals.
3. Search for Open Access Journals using search engines and evaluate by considering:
  - are articles from this journal being cited in other reputable journals?
  - are reputable authors being published in this journal?

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### [Avoid Predatory Publishers](#)

The development of Open Access Publishing has seen the rise of predatory publishers that seek to exploit the OA model. The primary goal of these publishers is to make a profit by engaging in questionable editorial and publishing practices.

A Predatory Journal may:

- appear as unsolicited spam from a non academic email account and include a lot of spelling and grammatical errors
- not provide the name of their editors or editorial board

## Open Access Publishing

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- not provide an address or give a fake address
- promise rapid publication (i.e. little or no peer review)
- make false claims (i.e. regarding impact factor and indexing)
- advertise special offers (i.e. reduced fees or limited time discounts)

For more information about predatory publishers, see [Identifying Deceptive Publishers: A Checklist](#).

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