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Imperial's open access policy

Imperial College London is committed to disseminating its research and scholarship as widely as possible. In line with this it supports the principle that 'the results of research that have been publicly funded should be freely accessible in the public domain' and therefore it encourages all its academic and research staff and students to make their research available through open access (OA). The College is engaging with research funders to develop suitable open access publication strategies.

Imperial's academics, researchers, staff and students are free to publish in journals of their choice. Where funders encourage or mandate open access, green open access (within the permitted embargo periods) should normally be the preferred route, unless funding for gold is available.

The College has implemented an open access mandate for all research publications, subject to publishers' copyright policy, to be deposited in Spiral. From January 2012, this means authors are required to upload their final peer reviewed copy of the paper into Spiral. The mandate does not require deposit of papers published before 2012. However, papers published before this date can be added to Spiral if you want to do so.

The Imperial Open Access Fund supports researchers to publish their research on open access. The fund is available to academic, postdoctoral staff and PhD students Imperial College London. It will pay for the open access publication costs for articles in fully open access journals only. You can apply to the fund by using the 'Deposit your work' in Symplectic.

From 2017, matters relating to open access publishing at the College are managed by the [Vice-Provost's Advisory Group for Research](#), and supporting infrastructure and services are delivered by Library Services, ICT, the Research Office, Strategic Planning and other research support staff and units. The [Imperial RCUK Fund Management Policy](#) is regularly reviewed by the Research Office and Library Services, in consultation with VPAGR.

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