

OA page Definitions - possible updates (not yet completed)

Possible image for OA at various stages of publishing (move the preprint part earlier, and align with working papers)



[UPDATED VERSION AT THIS LINK](#)

Text starts...

There are a number of models for open access articles, often characterised by colours. However, these colours rarely have meaning beyond individuals who work in this area and they are becoming increasingly unhelpful terms, especially as they are often used incorrectly as shorthand for mechanisms for how OA is supported financially.

The definitions below describe the key characteristics of each model and, where appropriate, include the colours for reference

Journal based open access

Full OA

In this model (gold OA), all articles within a given journal are made immediately free at the time of publication on the journal's website. The version that is made open is the final published version. All articles within that journal are licensed for sharing and reuse via creative commons licenses or similar.<sup>[1]</sup> Under this model, OA may be supported through article processing charges eg PLOS or through consortial funding eg OLH or institutional funding eg university OA journals. Journal

based OA that is not supported by individual APCs (ie which appears free to authors) is sometimes referred to as Platinum OA. In reality all publishing has a cost, even if that cost is that of volunteer time to run the journal.

#### Partial (Hybrid) journal open access

In this model individual articles are made open at the time of publication in a journal that is otherwise subscription based. The version that is made open is the final published version. This model always requires an APC.

#### Free to read

In this model (sometimes called bronze OA), articles are free to read at the journal but lack a clearly identifiable license;<sup>[27]</sup> Such articles may not be available for reuse and may be put back under a subscription barrier at any time. Journals may use this type of OA to promote specific content for marketing purposes, or at the time of a public emergency eg coronavirus

#### Repository based open access

In this model, (green OA) the authors' accepted version ie the version after peer review and before typesetting into a final journal format is made available in an OA repository - either at a university or at PMC or Europe PMC.

#### File sharing sites

There are a number of unauthorised file sharing sites. Sites such as SciHub are illegal repositories of journal content. The version in these sites is the final published version but there are no licenses associated with the articles. Research gate etc....

#### **Add Preprint based OA aka working papers**

...Text ends

#### **Note for other work**

Cut down libre vs gratis OA part....