

The HEFCE Open Access policy states that certain outputs must be available in an open-access form to be eligible for submission to the next REF.

Mandatory

All journal articles or conference proceedings with an ISSN* that are accepted for publication after 1 April 2016

Not mandatory (but encouraged)

- Monographs and other long-form publications
- Non-text, creative and practice-based research
- Research data

* Conference proceedings that form part of a book series are out of scope.

3 steps to open access



Output recorded in PURE within 3 months of acceptance

Record must be discoverable on web, but document may be under embargo

Document must be available to read and download after embargo

Deposit will be the responsibility of the author(s) at UoB

Discoverability and access will be managed by Library Services

Deposit requirements

- Must be deposited in an institutional or subject repository **within three months of being accepted** for publication.
- Must be deposited as the final, peer-reviewed text (as a minimum).

Discovery requirements

- Metadata must be discoverable to anyone with an internet connection, and to search engines.

Access requirements

- Output must allow anyone with internet access to search electronically within the text, read it and download it without charge.
- The access requirements must be fulfilled as soon as any embargo period has elapsed. Embargo periods should not exceed the following maxima:
 - 12 months for REF main panels A and B
 - 24 months for REF main panels C and D

Exceptions to the requirements

Open Access is encouraged for all research outputs, to increase the visibility and impact of the research. However, sometimes this is not achievable and the following exceptions can apply for REF2020.

Output will be deemed as out of scope if the individual:

- was not employed by a UK HEI at the point of acceptance
- experienced a delay securing the final peer-reviewed text (e.g. for multi-authored papers)
- was at a different UK HEI that failed to comply at the point of acceptance
- can show it would be unlawful, or present a security risk, to deposit the output

Outputs will be exempt from access requirements when:

- the output depends on third party content for which open access rights could not be granted
- the publication concerned requires an embargo period that exceeds the stated maxima, and was the most appropriate for the output
- the publication concerned actively disallows open-access deposit, and was the most appropriate for the output

There may be very unusual cases where an output could not meet the criteria for a reason not covered above. Such cases should be extremely rare and a process for considering these 'other' exceptions will be established in due course

Work currently underway at UoB

PURE has been confirmed as the institutional repository for open access compliance and you can start depositing your publications now.

Changes to Pure to enable the recording and monitoring of open access will be rolled out towards the end of 2015.

Training and guidance is being rolled out from May 2015.

What does non-compliance mean?

If an output that is within the scope but not compliant with all of the criteria and no valid exception was recorded then we will not be able to include in in the next REF.

Two routes for making your work Open Access:

Gold - a fee is paid to the publisher to make the content available to everyone on the publisher website

Green - make your output freely available in the University institutional repository (within publisher guidelines)



Find out more about Pure and how to use it at:
<https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/pure>

Contact us at:
pure@contacts.bham.ac.uk

You can also contact the Library regarding open access and depositing in PURE -
openaccesspublications@contacts.bham.ac.uk