HEFCE Policy for Open Access in the post-2014 REF

Open Access is the free availability of research outputs online.

HEFCE (Higher Education Funding Council for England) have introduced open access requirements for the next REF (Research Excellence Framework): hefce.ac.uk/pubs/year/2014/201407

The policy requires that research outputs must be made open access by depositing full-text papers into an online repository, such as UDORA.

HEFCE recommends that authors start depositing immediately and not wait for the policy start date.

Policy details

- The policy applies to journal articles and conference proceedings with an ISSN.
- It comes into effect for outputs accepted for publication after 1st April 2016.
- Deposits must be of the author’s accepted and final peer reviewed manuscript, non-inclusive of any publisher copyright-editing, formatting or logos.
- Qualifying outputs must have a record in a repository within 3 months of the date when the publisher notifies the author of acceptance.
- The author’s accepted and final peer reviewed manuscript must be made open access within 1 month after deposit, or after the end of the publisher embargo period.
- The maximum embargo periods are 12 months for REF Panels A and B, and 24 months for REF Panels C and D.

Exceptions

The choice of where to publish is an academic one.

The HEFCE policy includes a range of exceptions to ensure that you can publish in the most appropriate journals. A list of exceptions is available on the Library’s Support Guide to Researchers, see the ‘What is Open Access?’ section for Funder Policies: libguides.derby.ac.uk/research

How to comply

Upon receiving notification of acceptance from the publisher, eligible research outputs should have a brief record entered into UDORA with the author accepted manuscript uploaded.

Support

For more information on open access, please visit: libguides.derby.ac.uk/research

If you have any questions relating to the HEFCE Open Access Policy please contact your Subject Librarian.

For general queries about REF outputs, please contact Paul Weller, Head of Research (PhD Students and REF outputs): p.g.weller@derby.ac.uk. Paul Weller can signpost to other sources of information and advice about REF impact and REF environment.

Help on using UDORA is available on the Library’s Support Guide for Researchers, see the ‘UDORA’ section for help guide and videos: libguides.derby.ac.uk/research or, email UDORA@derby.ac.uk

Log-in to UDORA: derby.openrepository.com

‘Submit an item’ and select the appropriate Department or Research Centre Collection

Check journal permissions using information provided by Sherpa Romeo.

Create a brief record, completing at least the mandatory fields

‘Add Document’ and upload the final peer reviewed version of your paper, entering an embargo period if required by the publisher

Add a Creative Commons Licence, if allowed and desired, and grant the UDORA Distribution Licence

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