

Nature Communications OPEN – FAQs for Authors

What is the hybrid model?

The author pays hybrid model is a mixed revenue model of subscription charges and publication fees. It offers authors of accepted papers the choice to pay a fee in order for their articles to made freely available online immediately upon publication. The open access option will be available to all authors submitting original research.

What are authors paying for?

As costs are involved in every stage of the publication process, from peer-review, to copy-editing and hosting the final article on dedicated servers, the author is asked to pay a fee of \$5,000/£3,035/¥637,350/€3,570 (plus VAT where applicable) in order for their article to be published online without access control. By paying the one-off fee, authors will also be permitted to post the final, published PDF of their article on a web site, institutional repository or other free public server, immediately on publication.

Please note that manuscripts accepted for publication before April 2010 will receive a 20% reduction off the APC if authors choose to make their manuscripts open access.

Will there be additional charges, especially if an article contains colour images?

At *Nature Communications* there are no additional publication charges, unless authors wish to order reprints where charges will continue to apply.

What article types are included in the open access initiative?

The fee will apply to primary research papers only.

How will readers know which articles are available free?

Articles will be marked clearly with an icon bearing 'Open' – this will be used to identify open access articles in the journal's Table of Contents online, and on the full-text and PDF formats of the published work.

When will authors be given the choice to pay the open access fee?

Upon submission authors have the option of ticking a check box to indicate their intention to take up this offer and pay the one off fee to make their paper open access if it is accepted for publication. However, authors don't have to make a final decision until their manuscript is accepted for publication.

Upon acceptance in principle of their article for publication, authors will be offered this option once more and will need to complete a payment form, a link to which will be provided in the letter from the editor, as well as a relevant

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What time period do I have within which to make the payment?

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