University of Manitoba Researchers FAQs: Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications Compliance

The Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications is referred to as “the Policy”.

1. **What is the date(s) of publication this Policy applies to?**
   The Policy applies to all NSERC and SSHRC funded grants awarded May 1, 2015 and onwards. Only publications resulting from awards after this date are affected. CIHR’s existing Open Access Policy mandates compliance for research funded in whole or in part after January 1, 2008.

2. **What types of publications does this Policy apply to?**
   The Policy applies to peer-reviewed journal publications funded by the Tri-Agency research grants. At present, book chapters, reports, monographs, editorials, or conference proceedings are not included in compliance stipulations.

3. **How do researchers comply?**
   There are two options: (a) a subject or institutional repository where access must be publicly available within 12 months of publication; (b) a journal that offers open access (OA) to published articles, either immediately or within 12 months of publication. See also Navigating All Publication Options, and Publishing with Commercial Publishers.

4. **What are the responsibilities of grant recipients for compliance?**
   The Principle Investigator (PI) for the grant is responsible for compliance with the Policy. The responsibilities include providing publication metadata (i.e. journal name, title, author list etc.) for reporting; and for making available the appropriate copy of the publication to the repository, as necessary (see question 3).

5. **What are the costs with compliance?**
   Costs only apply to publishing with journal publishers that offer unrestricted/fully open (i.e. Gold Open) publishing option. This cost is an Article/Author Processing Charge (APC) and include peer-review, copy editing, formatting and other associated costs related to the submission/production processes. Costs associated with publishing in online open access journals are considered an eligible grant expense by Tri-Agency. See also Tri-Agency OA Policy v. Major Publisher Policy cheatsheet, and OA Fee Discounts.

6. **How long does it take to deposit my work in institutional repository (e.g. MSpace)?**
   Once you set up an account with the repository, it is usually only a matter of completing the form, including entering the important metadata necessary for discovery for each article. There are 2-3 business day delay for processing the record. After that, a permanent link and/or DOI is available for citing purposes. The record does not need to include full-text at the time of creation; for example, you may only need to show there is a record and later, edit the record to add the appropriate version of the manuscript.

7. **What if I do not have (enough) funding to cover the APC of a gold OA journal?**
   Meet with your liaison librarian or contact the Research Services & Digital Strategies unit to discuss your options to meet your open access requirements. Always investigate the discounts that may be available for any gold open journal; other options include publishing in a green open journal. See also OA Fee Discounts, and Navigating the Tri-Agency Open Access Policy resources.

8. **Which version of the manuscript/journal article do I need to make available via the institutional repository?**
   How to Meet Tri-Agency OA Requirement provide a glossary of publisher terms, including various version terms that publishers use. The Author Rights section provide a version infographic and explanation of Creative Commons licenses that can be applied by the publisher to either published or draft versions of the publication.

9. **What if the copyright transfer/license agreement does not allow the article/manuscript to be made available within 12 months of the date of publication?**
   Only applicable when choosing a green open publishing option: the author should make every attempt to negotiate rights that accommodate the embargo to be within or close to the 12 month stipulation. If these rights cannot be negotiated, this information must be provided to the Tri-Agency funder at the time of the Final Report submission. For pointers on how to negotiate an author addendum, see Author Rights.

10. **Does the Policy dictate where I can publish?**
    The Policy is in line with other international governmental and other large funders’ policies in mandating open access for manuscript and its related data. If you accept Tri-Agency funding, you agree to abide by all relevant policies, which may entail some constraints on your publication choices. See Navigating All Publication Options.

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