

*PLOS was created to drive change in scholarly publishing. To make the highest quality research openly available to every reader. To challenge subjective views of impact and let the transparency and rigor of the research process speak for itself. To reinvent policies, practices and business models in ways that reflect the true diversity of perspectives in science. We’re willing to break boundaries.* [www.plos.org](http://www.plos.org)

PLOS All Titles Offer for CRL, NERL and NERL Affiliates (NA) - Year 2 Opt in

Prepared *by* PLOS Partnerships team (partnerships@plos.org).

*Proposal valid through November 15, 2022* for January 1, 2023 with option for “late joiners” February - July 2023.

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Thank you very much for your interest in partnering with PLOS. We’re eager to provide you with as much documentation as you need to make an informed decision about partnership. The following provides an overview of our journals, our models, what problems they’re trying to solve, how they’re structured, and fees.

Additionally, we want to underscore that your institution’s support pays for a variety of services for your authors including:

* Managing a global peer-review network of thousands of editors and reviewers across hundreds of disciplines
* Providing, maintaining, and updating the software and hardware to facilitate online-only peer-review
* Staffing a highly trained inhouse editors to manage [the peer review process,](https://theplosblog.plos.org/2022/02/plos-publication-ethics-a-frank-discussion-on-handling-difficult-cases/) handle author inquiries, support reviewers, and facilitate post-publication peer review
* Maintaining the complex network of systems and software that facilitate online-only digital journal production
* Broadly communicating the work of PLOS authors are publishing ensure maximum reach to the communities who can benefit most from access to that research
* Ensuring authors are engaged in open science best practices including sharing their data, using ORCiDs, the CrediT taxonomy and many other practices as part of our suite open science offerings
* Staffing an inhouse research [team](https://plos.org/research-by-plos/) to better understand uptake of Open Science practices within and beyond PLOS
* Effectively resourcing a transformative [approach](https://theplosblog.plos.org/2020/07/our-commitment-to-diversity-equity-and-inclusion/) to diversity, equity, and inclusion across our journals, business models, and business practices.

While not all of this work is reflected in our [Plan S Price Transparency](https://theplosblog.plos.org/2021/09/our-commitment-to-price-transparency/) work (updated annually), it’s important to underscore how your institution is furthering the advancement of open science (not just open access).



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# ⎮ WHAT PARTNERSHIP PAYS FOR

### Partnership enables PLOS' mission

As a nonprofit organization, PLOS does not seek revenue surplus purely for financial gain or as a return to shareholders. Our organizational activities are developed with the sole purpose of meeting the needs of researchers and reinvesting in the scholarly community to make all aspects of the research process open, transparent, and reusable for any community engaging in and with research.



### Furthering Open Science

As outlined in more depth [below](#_heading=h.f56vx9stg7u8), we see Open Science as essential to enabling all researchers to contribute to, learn from, and accelerate scientific discovery. PLOS is committed to piloting, developing, and leading the way in establishing Open Science practices as community norms. . Open Science awareness, implementation, and uptake are critical components of making this mission a reality. This includes:

* A dedicated team of Open Science experts - PLOS’ Open Science research team is dedicated to understanding, implementing, and [researching](https://plos.org/research-by-plos/) the uptake of Open Science behaviors across scholarly communication and especially within PLOS titles. They, along with PLOS’ Chief Scientific Officer, drive the Open Science practices embedded in all PLOS titles.
* Suite of 14 comprehensive Open Science Features across PLOS titles - Accelerating progress in research communication is only possible through Open Science best practices. PLOS has embedded a suite of core Open Sciences [features](https://plos.org/open-science/) across our titles to maximize uptake of these best practices. PLOS’ Open Science team develops and implements these features in collaboration with partners like Protocols.io, medRxiv, CredIT, ORCiD, and many other organizations.
* Open Science outreach and informational resources - PLOS engages researchers globally in discourse surrounding Open Science practices, to increase awareness and adoption of tools that increase research integrity, transparency, and reproducibility. PLOS staff create and maintain informational resources available on our website, promote Open Science practices through email and social media, and invite further discussion through participatory events such as [Scientists 4 Open Science](https://plos.org/scientists-for-open-science/).

### Enabling online peer review via global networks

We rely on the expertise of thousands of researchers spanning every discipline and corner of the globe to help us evaluate and shape the quality of everything we publish. Peer review networks, infrastructure, services, and support are foundational to PLOS’ commitment to ensure ethically and methodologically rigorous research is available as quickly as possible. This includes paying for:

Support and development of a global peer review network - PLOS manages and liaises with communities of thousands of editors and peer reviewers globally to ensure timely and rigorous peer review. PLOS employs several teams dedicated to providing robust support for this vast network of volunteers, including in-house editorial staff, journal managers, and research and recruitment specialists who ensure our editorial boards are staffed with appropriate expertise, and that volunteers receive the training and resources they need to make fair and objective decisions.

* Software and hardware to support peer review online - PLOS maintains both third party and homegrown technology to support a fully online peer-review process. Our editorial submission system, Editorial Manager (owned by Aries, now part of Elsevier), alone is a seven figure investment – essential to support a journal the size of PLOS ONE (to say nothing of our other titles!).
* Expert, highly trained PLOS staff editors and support teams - Managing editorial networks globally requires PLOS staff support from the US and UK to the Philippines. Online peer review requires the management of tens of thousands of author, editor, and peer-reviewer queries and technical checks across text, data, code, and other digital artifacts (to say nothing of extensive work of the non-PLOS peer reviewers themselves!). These teams are highly trained to ensure these processes are efficient, accurate, and fair to our communities.

### Facilitating online-only digital publishing operations and production

* Dedicated team of ethics experts: Given PLOS’ high volume of publications and emphasis on ethical rigor, it is essential to have a dedicated, highly trained team focused entirely on ethical questions in PLOS research. The goal of this team is to ensure the integrity and validity of the research PLOS publishes, gathering and liaising with a complex set of stakeholders to fairly and transparently address ethical concerns. (Read more about their work [here](https://everyone.plos.org/2019/02/12/maintaining-high-research-integrity-standards-at-plos-one/)).
* Extensive system of software and infrastructure for digital journal production - Once research and other open science artifacts have made it through peer-review, making those objects openly available online requires technology and staff expertise to ensure an accurate version of record on PLOS’ site.. This work encompasses everything from indexing full text and metadata to various third parties and managing end-to-end XML workflow to ensuring corrections are handled correctly and ensuring technical checks are thorough and complete.

###

### Ensuring equity of access and dissemination of research

* Global communication and dissemination of PLOS authors’ research - PLOS’ dedicated communications and outreach teams ensure that PLOS research receives global news coverage. More eyes on research ensures that society broadly is benefiting from the scientific process, making it easier for researchers and laypeople alike to access and understand peer-reviewed literature.
* Underpinning all this work is a comprehensive approach to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI): PLOS has committed to be [publicly accountable](https://theplosblog.plos.org/2021/10/following-through-on-our-commitment-to-diversity-equity-and-inclusion/) for a comprehensive strategy to ensure DEI is integrated into all aspects of its work. From composition of PLOS editorial boards and journal scopes to PLOS’ internal hiring and compensation practices, PLOS is dedicated considerable resources to both externally and internally focused foundational DEI work.

# ⎮ PLOS AND OUR TITLES

### The original inclusive, multidisciplinary megalith

PLOS ONE publishes in over 200 subject areas across science, engineering, medicine and the related social sciences and humanities. Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research, negative and null results are all in scope.The journal was launched to subvert subjective views of research impact and ensure that all rigorous research could be published, widely accessible and discoverable.

### Our highly selective journals

PLOS Biology publishes significant advances across the biological sciences. And we push boundaries.

Designed to advance science and the communities who depend upon it, we’re transforming research communication to fit the research process. Evolving article types and policies empower authors to share the full story behind their science with a global audience of researchers, educators, policy makers, patient advocacy groups, and the public.

PLOS Medicine publishes original research with the greatest potential impact on health and healthcare globally, making advances in the most important topics that face our society today available immediately, to every reader.

PLOS Sustainability and Transformation is a multidisciplinary forum for researchers to exchange knowledge and share leading research that drives critical progress in optimizing the use of renewable resources, transforming the global economy and achieving a sustainable future. NEW in 2022.

### Our specialized community-led journals

At *PLOS Genetics,* we collaborate with researchers from every sub-field, career stage, and demographic to explore, share, and connect the varied complexities of genes and their impact on life in all organisms.

*PLOS Pathogens* explores the breadth and depth of pathogens research from authors across all disciplines, with publishing options for deeper context and transparency that show all the nuance of authors’ work while making it more widely accessible.

*PLOS Computational Biology* strives to break boundaries because we’re led by researchers with an appetite for change. We publish work that advances the biological sciences with trusted computational tools and techniques, and shapes the future of Open research communication.

*PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases* brings global attention to the treatment and management of neglected diseases, and to the unique challenges faced by neglected communities against all diseases. We publish leading research from experts connected to the region, conditions, and culture of the people we aim to serve.

*PLOS Digital Health* publishes boundary-breaking research that uses digital tools, technologies, and data science to advance every aspect of health care. Open Science options at every stage of research communication empower researchers to drive trust, collaboration and reproducibility in this field. NEW in 2022.

### Broad scope, quality driven titles - all new in 2022

*PLOS Water* brings together research of the highest methodological and ethical standards in the areas of water sanitation, resource recovery and use, applied water policy and the sustainable consumption, management and supply of water as a vital resource for societies in every region of the world.

*PLOS Climate* unites researchers across disciplines and regions of the world to tackle the causes and effects of climate change and dynamics at a global scale. Our goal is to empower global collaboration--between researchers and organizations, individuals and policymakers--that is centered around research of the highest methodological and ethical standards and the values of Open Science.

*PLOS Global Public Health* is a global forum for public health research of the highest ethical and methodological rigor that reaches across disciplines and regional boundaries to address some of the biggest health challenges and inequities facing our society today.

### Background on new titles

In April 2021, PLOS launched five new titles as part of our new global strategy. Full details on the titles, their scope and their mission alignment are here: <https://theplosblog.plos.org/2021/04/launching-new-journals-2021/>

PLOS will be launching 5 new titles in 2023 in the areas of agriculture/agronomy, digital technology and innovation, mental health and well being, complex systems and population and aging. Any institution who opts into the PLOS offer will automatically have APC-free unlimited publishing and open science services thanks to this agreement.

# **⎮**LEADING BEST PRACTICES IN OPEN SCIENCE

From increasing transparency at all stages of review to more inclusive models of assessment, PLOS is redefining how we evaluate, share, and read research: <https://plos.org/open-science/>

## Open access is just the beginning

“Open” is about more than just being able to read or share an article. It’s about providing the right context to understand it. The resources to replicate it. The tools to collaborate and make science better. And building the framework for more equitable participation and distribution of knowledge.

### 2021 UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science

In 2019, UNESCO member states asked the organization to develop an international standard-setting instrument for Open Science to be adopted by member states in 2021. As stated on the UNESCO [site](https://en.unesco.org/science-sustainable-future/open-science/recommendation), “The Recommendation was expected to define shared values and principles for Open Science, and identify concrete measures on Open Access and Open Data, with proposals to bring citizens closer to science and commitments to facilitate the production and dissemination of scientific knowledge around the world. The Recommendation was developed through a regionally balanced, multistakeholder, inclusive and transparent consultation process.”

The [publicly available](https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark%3A/48223/pf0000379949.locale%3Den) – and now officially adopted – recommendation lays the groundwork for an internationally shared standard for Open Science. PLOS Open Science work is deeply informed by this standard to ensure we are doing our part to “make multilingual scientific knowledge openly available, accessible and reusable for everyone, to increase scientific collaborations and sharing of information for the benefits of science and society, and to open the processes of scientific knowledge creation, evaluation and communication to societal actors beyond the traditional scientific community.”

##

## Overview of PLOS Open Science initiatives

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Open Science practices enrich the scientific record, extending the reach and maximizing the impact of research. Detailed documentation from the investigatory and peer review processes contextualizes research, sets an example for students, facilitates reanalysis and replication, and supports trust.
The following is an overview of PLOS’ suite of Open Science features.

### Open Licenses

The Creative Commons-Attribution (CC BY) license balances the importance of scholarly credit, with the need to share research broadly and rapidly. Under a CC BY license, authors retain the copyright for their work while at the same time granting permission for anyone, anywhere in the world to read, share, reuse or remix the work for any purpose, as long as the original author is properly credited. Open licensing makes research accessible immediately upon publication, with no restrictions. Anyone with internet access can find, read, mine, cite and share OA articles at no cost to them.

All papers published with PLOS are automatically and immediately publicly available via CC BY license.

### Open Data Policy

Open Data is a strategy for incorporating research data into the permanent scientific record by releasing it under an Open Access license. Whether data is deposited in a purpose-built repository or published as Supporting Information alongside a research article, Open Data practices ensure that data remains accessible and discoverable. For verification, replication, reuse, and enhanced understanding of research.

Publishing in a PLOS journal carries with it a commitment to make the data underlying the conclusions in your research article publicly available upon publication. Our data policy underscores the rigor of the research we publish, and gives readers a fuller understanding of each study.

Share more about the benefits of Open Date here: <https://plos.org/open-science/open-data/#data>

###

### [Published Peer Review](https://plos.org/published-peer-review-history/)

Our approach to open, published peer review encourages authors and reviewers to reveal the expert perspectives that help shape published research, promoting quality and accountability, and demonstrating the rigor of the peer review process.

At PLOS researchers decide what level of transparency is right for them. on a case by case basis. When a manuscript is accepted for publication at any PLOS journal, the authors can choose to release the complete Peer Review History alongside the final article under its own unique DOI, making it a part of the scientific record. The Peer Review History package collects the author correspondence exchanged during the peer review possess, including decision letters from each revision with both editorial feedback and peer reviews, and the authors’ responses to reviewers.

If the reviewers have chosen to sign, their names will appear alongside their comments. If not, the reviews will appear anonymously.

Learn more about the benefits of published peer review at the PLOS Blog [here](https://theplosblog.plos.org/2018/08/transparency-credit-and-peer-review/).

### [Preprints](https://plos.org/open-science/preprints/)

PLOS encourages and enables posting of preprints for researchers to share, get feedback, and receive credit for their results sooner. Our partnerships make posting life sciences preprints easy and convenient.

* Direct Transfer from bioRxiv and medRxiv: Your authors can choose to have their preprints forwarded for consideration to the PLOS journal of your choice via Direct Transfer.
* Post to preprints servers during PLOS submission process: If your authors want to post a preprint to either bioRxiv or medRxiv, PLOS can do it for them. During initial submission, they just need to opt-in to have manuscripts posted on their behalf. They will appear on the site in less than 5 days.
* Post directly to the most relevant field-specific preprint server: Your authors can share the DOI to any specialized preprint server in which they deposit when they submit to a PLOS title.

###

### [CRediT](https://theplosblog.plos.org/2016/07/author-credit-plos-and-credit-update/) and [ORCiD](https://plos.org/open-science/orcid)

The [CRediT](https://theplosblog.plos.org/2022/01/contributorship/) taxonomy and ORCID empower authors and reviewers to claim credit for different kinds of research contributions with accuracy and granularity. How can we allocate credit fairly and accurately?

The challenges inherent in our current systems for assigning credit in scholarly communications fall into three major categories: identifying individual contributors, identifying their specific contributions, and recognizing contributions other than authorship. [Open Science tools](https://theplosblog.plos.org/2022/01/author-identity/) and practices offer thoughtful and evolving solutions for each of these credit challenges and recognize researchers for all of their scholarly outputs.

### Sharing [Methods](https://plos.org/open-science/open-methods/) including [Code](https://journals.plos.org/ploscompbiol/article?id=10.1371/journal.pcbi.1008867) and [Protocols](https://plos.org/protocols/)

Open methods and raw data offer a glimpse at the framing of a research study. To generate conclusions, researchers make subjective decisions about how to analyze data and interpret the patterns they observe. The artifacts of research, such as detailed methods and raw data, are less likely to be influenced either positively or negatively by personal interests or opinion. That makes them less susceptible to publication or confirmation bias, which makes sharing essential. PLOS encourages all researchers to share methods (and requires all PLOS authors to share data).



### [Preregistration](https://plos.org/open-science/preregistration/)

Preregistration is the practice of publishing a research question and study design with a registration service or journal before conducting a scientific investigation.

Preregistration enables research assessment to begin when science starts. Sharing research design also increases the credibility and reproducibility of results and helps address publication bias. Preregistration options are now available on PLOS ONE and PLOS Biology.

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# ⎮PLOS BUSINESS MODELS OVERVIEW

While there are multiple approaches underpinning PLOS’ venture into non-APC based business models, the core experience for institutions and authors is the same: One annual fee for institutions and APC-free, unlimited publishing (pending peer review) for authors in the title(s) in question. Currently our business models are broken out by journals and payment mechanisms. Below is a brief description of the models and the journals to which they apply. New titles launched in 2021 are clearly indicated.

### Flat Fees for six titles (Including PLOS ONE)

Institutions seeking uncapped, APC free publishing for their authors in the SIX APC-based titles (*PLOS ONE, PLOS Computational Biology, PLOS Pathogens, PLOS Genetics, PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases,* and *PLOS Digital Health* - NEW*)* **may** elect to opt into [“Flat Fees for the SIX.”](https://plos.org/resources/for-institutions/flat-fee-agreements/)

Fees for this model are calculated by looking at an institution’s historical publishing, APC-spend, and waiver rate in the existing PLOS titles (for corresponding authors), in addition to the current APCs at the time of negotiation. It also considers their anticipated publishing trend in *PLOS Digital Health*.

It also factors in a 4% per-article bulk discount, a growth assumption to pay for unlimited publishing, and the possibility of an “author transaction fee” to keep author grant monies as a funding stream to support publishing charges.

### PLOS Global Equity (GE)

PLOS’ new broad-scope, inclusive titles - *PLOS Water, PLOS Climate,* and *PLOS Global Public Health* - have been launched to enable co-creation of paths to Open Science that work for diverse communities to build a more equitable global publishing landscape. These new journals create new and diverse communities of practice and ensure that they are at the forefront of shaping how we address the most pressing health and environmental issues facing our society.

To ensure that access to publishing in these titles is equitable, PLOS has developed our new [Global Equity](https://plos.org/resources/global-equity-model/) model empowering institutions in every region of the world to provide unlimited Open Access publication support for their authors through a single, annual fee that is affordable and equitably reflects regional economies.

Core components of this model:

* Historical publishing activity in the journal subject area from 2017-2020 (This is an indicator for publishing potential in the journal as there is currently little to no publishing history in the titles.)
* Counting affiliations of corresponding *and contributing authors* (as we do in the PLOS CAP model)
* World Bank Lending Classification: <https://blogs.worldbank.org/opendata/new-world-bank-country-classifications-income-level-2020-2021>
* Unique “equity contribution” option for institutions to further reduce the fees for L/LMIC institutions as a group

### PLOS Community Action Publishing (CAP)

Winner of the [ALPSP 2021 Innovation in Publishing](https://www.alpsp.org/news/winners-announced-alpsp-awards-september-2021) Award, [PLOS CAP i](https://plos.org/resources/community-action-publishing/)s designed to make publishing in PLOS’ highly selective journals – *PLOS Biology, PLOS Medicine,* and *PLOS Sustainability and Transformation* – APC-free for institutions that become members. By equitably and transparently distributing the cost of publishing these titles amongst the institutions that publish in them the most, PLOS aims to prove that highly selective journals can be Open Access without prohibitively high APCs – or, indeed, any.

Institutions who pay an annual flat fee to join any of the three communities guarantee unlimited publishing for the corresponding authors in those titles with no fees, and a reduction in the article cost for contributing author papers. Authors from non-member institutions must pay a non-member fee to publish.

A deeper dive into how all models are calculated is available upon request: partnerships@plos.org

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# ⎮PLOS Business Model Summary

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Model** | **Applicable Journals** | **Basis for Fees** | **Discounts/notes** |
| Flat Fees for the SIX | *PLOS ONE**PLOS Genetics* *PLOS Pathogens* *PLOS Computational Biology* *PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases**PLOS* ***Digital Health*** | Current list [APCs](https://plos.org/publish/fees/),institutions’ historic publishing trend in existing PLOS titles and in the subject area of digital health, institutions’ historic APC spend and waiver rates | Minimum 4% per article bulk discount that increases as publication volumes increase |
| PLOS Global Equity (GE) | ***PLOS Water*** ***PLOS Climate******PLOS Global Public Health*** | Institutions’ historical publishing trends in the journals’ subject areas, contributing and corresponding author affiliations, World Bank lending class | Institutions may also consider an “equity contribution” to further reduce fees for L/LMIC institutions |
| PLOS Community Action Publishing (CAP) | *PLOS Medicine**PLOS Biology**PLOS Sustainability and Transformation* | Institutions’ historical publishing trends in the PLOS titles and the journal subject area of Sustainability and Transformation, contributing and corresponding author affiliations, publicly shared revenue and capped margin cost recovery target. Overages above revenue target are redistributed to community members through reduction of future fees. | *PLOS Sustainability and Transformation*fees are reduced by 50% for early adopters.  |

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## Executive Summary of PLOS/CRL/NERL/NA offer

*The current offer to CRL/NERL/NA members (with or without any existing agreements with PLOS) is for unlimited publishing and open science services in all 12 PLOS titles and the* [*5 new titles*](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QrwCOoDyazggLumNWCzCEmD__nbE8UaB/edit#heading=h.joqck7ywecss) *launching in 2023.*

The offer itself is for all 12 titles. Should members prefer to pick and choose titles, PLOS is happy to work directly with you on a separate agreement.

### YEAR 2 ALL TITLES PRICING

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FEES FOR ONE YEAR** | **Annual Fee - All titles** |
| Johns Hopkins University | $250,417 |
| Harvard University | $238,508 |
| University of Washington | $186,040 |
| University of California, Davis | $155,309 |
| Stanford University | $197,481 |
| University of British Columbia | $157,482 |
| University of Florida | $133,810 |
| University of Minnesota | $136,795 |
| Texas A&M University | $122,527 |
| University of Pennsylvania | $135,445 |
| University of California, Los Angeles | $133,040 |
| University of Wisconsin–Madison | $129,497 |
| Cornell University | $130,936 |
| University of California, San Diego | $148,846 |
| Duke University | $118,951 |
| University of Pittsburgh | $117,386 |
| University of Alberta | $99,045 |
| University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign | $97,386 |
| Columbia University | $146,145 |
| University of California, Berkeley | $135,783 |
| University of Michigan–Ann Arbor | $125,323 |
| Emory University | $110,075 |
| Washington University in St. Louis | $115,156 |
| McGill University | $126,358 |
| Boston University | $107,061 |
| University of Southern California | $89,590 |
| North Carolina State University | $75,118 |
| Northwestern University | $94,600 |
| University of Georgia | $73,640 |
| University of Utah | $73,640 |
| Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey | $72,541 |
| Massachusetts Institute of Technology | $85,665 |
| University of California, Irvine | $74,933 |
| University of Ottawa | $75,920 |
| Virginia Tech | $68,660 |
| McMaster University | $68,460 |
| Simon Fraser University | $69,296 |
| University of Arizona | $73,645 |
| Oregon State University | $62,721 |
| University of Alabama at Birmingham | $67,472 |
| University of Calgary | $66,486 |
| University of Iowa | $60,859 |
| Brown University | $62,980 |
| University of Virginia | $61,109 |
| Vanderbilt University | $65,985 |
| Case Western Reserve University | $54,140 |
| University of Göttingen | $51,634 |
| The University of Texas at Austin | $70,139 |
| Arizona State University | $52,505 |
| Université Laval | $57,504 |
| University of Kentucky | $54,916 |
| University of Maryland, Baltimore | $48,737 |
| University of Notre Dame | $47,954 |
| Stony Brook University | $52,436 |
| University of Connecticut | $53,358 |
| University of Vermont | $46,881 |
| University of California, Santa Barbara | $50,033 |
| University of California, Santa Cruz | $45,809 |
| University of Illinois at Chicago | $50,141 |
| University of Missouri | $45,348 |
| York University | $44,469 |
| American University of Beirut | $34,930 |
| Brigham Young University | $42,839 |
| Northeastern University | $42,055 |
| University of Manitoba | $43,001 |
| University of Maryland, College Park | $44,244 |
| Dartmouth College | $39,709 |
| Kansas State University | $39,936 |
| University of New Mexico | $39,709 |
| University of Cincinnati | $39,771 |
| University of Hong Kong | $44,989 |
| University of South Florida | $41,139 |
| Florida State University | $38,334 |
| University of Nebraska–Lincoln | $37,795 |
| University of Oregon | $42,908 |
| University of Saskatchewan | $33,753 |
| University of South Carolina | $29,600 |
| George Mason University | $30,391 |
| Georgia State University | $29,534 |
| Temple University | $30,324 |
| University of Delaware | $30,457 |
| Texas Tech University | $27,977 |
| University of Central Florida | $28,045 |
| George Washington University | $33,266 |
| Loyola University Chicago | $23,309 |
| Miami University | $22,169 |
| San Diego State University | $25,631 |
| University of Maryland Center For Environmental Sciences | $22,169 |
| Carleton University | $22,212 |
| Concordia University | $22,212 |
| Kent State University | $22,103 |
| The University of Texas at San Antonio | $22,103 |
| Boston College | $19,798 |
| Florida International University | $20,939 |
| Ohio University | $27,012 |
| Ryerson University | $21,072 |
| University of California, Merced | $19,757 |
| University of Massachusetts Boston | $19,798 |
| University of North Texas | $16,548 |
| University of Oklahoma | $20,678 |
| University of Victoria | $22,740 |
| Ball State University | $16,270 |
| Baylor University | $17,410 |
| Binghamton University | $16,270 |
| Brandeis University | $16,270 |
| Lehigh University | $16,270 |
| Trent University | $16,270 |
| University of Maryland, Baltimore County | $15,130 |
| Bowling Green State University | $12,784 |
| Brock University | $14,707 |
| Illinois Institute of Technology | $13,924 |
| Macalester College | $9,363 |
| Marquette University | $12,784 |
| Northern Illinois University | $12,784 |
| Smith College | $12,036 |
| University of Dayton | $12,784 |
| University of North Carolina at Greensboro | $15,106 |
| University of North Florida | $12,784 |
| The University of Texas at Dallas | $13,924 |
| Sewanee: The University of the South | $10,503 |
| Wilfrid Laurier University | $15,106 |
| Ashland University | $7,017 |
| Butler University | $7,017 |
| Chicago State University | $7,017 |
| Colgate University | $9,297 |
| College of Wooster | $8,157 |
| DePaul University | $10,437 |
| Furman University | $7,017 |
| The Graduate Center, CUNY | $7,017 |
| Grinnell College | $7,017 |
| Hamilton College | $7,017 |
| Hampshire College | $7,017 |
| Hope College | $7,017 |
| Lafayette College | $8,157 |
| Middlebury College | $7,017 |
| Morgan State University | $9,297 |
| Mount Holyoke College | $8,157 |
| Norwich University | $7,017 |
| Oberlin College | $8,157 |
| Occidental College | $8,157 |
| Towson University | $10,437 |
| Union College | $7,017 |
| United States Military Academy | $7,017 |
| University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa | $13,858 |
| University of Baltimore | $7,017 |
| University of Denver | $10,479 |
| University of Maryland Eastern Shore | $7,017 |
| University of West Florida | $9,297 |
| Valparaiso University | $7,017 |
| Williams College | $8,218 |
| Howard University | $9,298 |
| Adler University | $5,918 |
| Amherst College | $5,918 |
| Bard College | $5,918 |
| Baruch College | $8,218 |
| Beloit College | $5,918 |
| Berlin State Library | $5,918 |
| Bowie State University | $5,918 |
| Canisius College | $5,918 |
| Carleton College | $5,918 |
| Carthage College | $5,918 |
| Colorado College | $7,068 |
| Coppin State University | $5,918 |
| Frostburg State University | $5,918 |
| Illinois Wesleyan University | $5,918 |
| Kalamazoo College | $5,918 |
| Kenyon College | $5,918 |
| Knox College | $5,918 |
| Lake Forest College | $5,918 |
| Lakehead University | $10,495 |
| Liberty University | $5,918 |
| Loyola-Notre Dame Library | $5,918 |
| Millikin University | $5,918 |
| Mount Allison University | $8,218 |
| National Agricultural Library | $5,918 |
| National Humanities Center | $5,918 |
| Olivet Nazarene University | $5,918 |
| Pepperdine University | $5,918 |
| Queens University | $12,508 |
| Rollins College | $5,918 |
| St. Lawrence University | $5,918 |
| St. Mary's College of Maryland | $5,918 |
| St. Olaf College | $5,918 |
| Salisbury University | $5,918 |
| SUNY Geneseo | $5,918 |
| Claremont Colleges | $9,368 |
| New College of Florida | $5,918 |
| Newberry Library | $5,918 |
| School of the Art Institute of Chicago | $5,918 |
| Thomas Jefferson Foundation | $5,918 |
| University of Maryland Global Campus | $5,918 |
| University of San Diego | $9,038 |
| University of San Francisco | $9,368 |
| Wofford College | $5,918 |

### Fees by model/journal

*PLOS Community Action Publishing titles* - List fees (page 23 in public documentation) based on institutional publication corresponding and contributing author activity in PLOS titles from 2014 - Q3 2019 as outlined in our [public documentation](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14TRa_VqvJ1ZDEXcHRCjnGj39XGT7s7Wl/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=115281661106244011354&rtpof=true&sd=true) (page 19).[[1]](#footnote-1)

*PLOS Global Equity titles* - List fees (page 18 in public documentation) based on Web of Science corresponding and contributing author activity from 2016-2020 in the journal scope area as outlined in our [public documentation](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14TRa_VqvJ1ZDEXcHRCjnGj39XGT7s7Wl/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=115281661106244011354&rtpof=true&sd=true) (page 17).

*PLOS Flat Fee* titles (including PLOS ONE) - Flat fees forare calculated based on the following criteria (page 15 in our [public documentation](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14TRa_VqvJ1ZDEXcHRCjnGj39XGT7s7Wl/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=115281661106244011354&rtpof=true&sd=true)):

* Publication trends across five existing titles and in the journal scope of *PLOS Digital Health* (data from Web of Science from 2016-2020)
* Average of 2019-2020 publications, spend, and waiver rates for the existing five journals
* Current APC rates for the six titles
* A three year growth assumption required to make unlimited publishing sustainable (this growth assumption decreases the more institutions participate in the offer).
* Minimum 4% per-article bulk discount (that increases as publishing volume increases)
* An additional 2% savings on the Flat Fee portion of the deal given the participation rate in year 1 of the deal.

## Participation and FAQs

*Deal term:* Approximately 2 years depending on your institution’s start date with all deals ending December 31, 2024

*Start dates*: October 1, 2022 (2.25 yrs), January 3, 2023 (2 years), April 1, 2023 (1.75 yrs), July 1, 2023 (1.5 years)

*Commitment deadlines:* 1 September (for Oct 1, 2022); 15 November (for Jan 3, 2023), 28 Feb 2023 (for April 1, 2023), 1 June 2023 (for July 1, 2023)

*Proration for off-year starts dates*: Institutions that join before or after the Year 1 start date (Jan 3, 2023) will have their fees prorated for the Global Equity and Flat Fee models. CAP titles are NOT prorated because the model is built as a collective and changes in one institution’s fees affect all other members. PLOS is happy to check the submission pipeline to see if you have papers likely to be accepted after your institution’s chosen start date.

*Offer eligibility:* Corresponding authors currently from an institution that has opted into the agreement, who are currently enrolled/working at the institution and have an institutional email address whose papers *are accepted on or after the agreement start date*.

*Eligibility verification:* Institutions will receive a Monthly Accepted Manuscript (MAM) report (as an Excel spreadsheet) listing the complete author and article metadata (including DOIs) for all papers accepted in the last month. Institutions have 14 days to review this list *if they wish – review is NOT required –* to verify that authors who have opted in are actually eligible for the agreement. If there are errors, the institution will notify partnerships@plos.org and any author who is NOT eligible will receive an invoice. Their paper will not be associated with the agreement and this correction will be reflected in the next MAM report.

*Author workflow to participate:* Currently, Canadian authors wishing to benefit from their institutions’ participation in this offer must follow the [delineated workflow](https://vimeo.com/727034731) outlined in our author instruction guides: [For PLOS Biology, Medicine, and Sustainability and Transformation](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/128jRfOE74wvzaFQa2-uzJZgodOzWW2E41Ri-HFIa0Ao/edit?usp=sharing), and the [other nine PLOS titles.](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1k4A0vEI12Z6Cfd5aiV9yuSu0ysGkzWLxODPYTAQ3jws/edit?usp=sharing) While PLOS has two billing systems, these instructions will remain distinct based on the journal to which an author is submitting. We aim to have a unified billing system for all 12 titles implemented in the second half of 2023.

*Marketing support to communicate the benefits:* PLOS has a dedicated “kick off” with institutions 4-6 weeks before their agreements go live to ensure we are aligned on how we support reporting, eligibility, and author communication. One tool we provide is our [“Librarian Welcome Pack”](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1k4A0vEI12Z6Cfd5aiV9yuSu0ysGkzWLxODPYTAQ3jws/edit?usp=sharing) which provides a comprehensive set of marketing and communication tools to support the library’s outreach efforts. We encourage feedback on what other tools/support libraries need to get the word out.

| **Journals/OS services** | **Model** | **Term period** | **Eligibility** | **About fees** | **Notes** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| All 12 PLOS titles, all available OS services | CAP + GE + Flat Fee | January 3, 2023 - 31 December 2024 (with optional alternative start dates) | Corresponding authors ACCEPTED after start date  | * Invoicing and agreement through CRL/NERL/NA
* S&T fees are discounted 50% for anyone joining between 2022-2024
* Flat Fee titles include a 4% per article discount
* 5% set-up fee in year one is to cover the set up fees for multiple billing solutions as PLOS moves away from its current infrastructure to a unified solution in 2023. All institutions commencing new deals in 2023 are subject to this fee, which has been discounted for CRL/NERL/NA.
 | Any institution with an existing PLOS agreement may modify to participate in this agreement. Institutions who already have CAP or GE titles will have those fees “grandmothered” into this agreement.  |

## PLOS key contacts

PLOS Partnerships team - US, east-coast based (GMT- 5 hours) 8:30 am - 6 pm M-Fr at partnerships@plos.org

Sara Rouhi, Director of Strategic Partnerships, srouhi@plos.org, +1 202 505 0814

# Appendix

***PLOS current APC rates and Non-Member Fees as of August 2022 (These increase annually)***

<https://plos.org/publish/fees/>

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **JOURNAL\*** | **APC (reflected in USD)** |
| PLOS ONE | $1,805 USD  |
| PLOS ONE Registered Report Article | $800 USD |
| PLOS ONE Registered Report Protocols | $1,380 USD |
| PLOS ONE Lab Protocols & Study Protocols | $1,805 USD |
| PLOS GENETICS | $2,655 USD |
| PLOS PATHOGENS | $2,655 USD |
| PLOS COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY | $2,655 USD |
| PLOS NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES | $2,495 USD |
| PLOS CLIMATE | $2,100 USD |
| PLOS WATER | $2,100 USD |
| PLOS GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH | $2,100 USD |
| PLOS DIGITAL HEALTH |  $2,575 USD |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **PLOS CAP TITLES** | **NON-MEMBER FEES 2022** |
| PLOS MEDICINE | $5,300 USD |
| PLOS BIOLOGY | $5,300 USD |
| PLOS BIOLOGY Discovery Report | $4,500 USD |
| PLOS BIOLOGY Update Articles | $3,000 USD |
| PLOS SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSFORMATION | $3,000 USD |

Complete overview of PLOS’ publication fees can be found at <https://plos.org/publish/fees/>

1. The exception to this methodology is *PLOS Sustainability & Transformation* because it is a new title in 2022 and has no publishing history. For this title we looked at the 2016-2020 corresponding and contributing author activity in the journal scope area as a proxy. We will shift to journal publishing actuals when we re-tier institutions in 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)