

NIH Public Access Policy @ UIC

New NIH Reporting Requirements

Introduction

Recipients of National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding should be aware of a new reporting requirement that goes into effect on April 7, 2008.

(<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-08-033.html>)

- Principal investigators must ensure that electronic versions of any peer-reviewed manuscripts arising from NIH funding and accepted for publication after that date are deposited in PubMed Central (PMC), NIH's digital archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature.
- Full text of the articles will be freely available to the public no later than 12 months after publication.
- The requirement applies to any NIH direct funding in fiscal year 2008 or later, including grants, contracts, training grants, subcontracts, etc.
- Beginning May 25, 2008, all applications, proposals or progress reports to NIH must include the PMC or NIH Manuscript Submission Reference Number when citing applicable articles that arise from NIH funded research.

Who is affected?

The Policy applies to you if your peer-reviewed article accepted for publication on or after April 7, 2008 is based on work in one or more of the following categories:

- Directly funded by NIH grant, cooperative agreement, or contract active in Fiscal Year 2008 (October 1, 2007-September 30, 2008) or beyond;
- Directly funded by a contract signed on or after April 7, 2008;
- Directly funded by the NIH Intramural Program;
- If NIH pays your salary.

Important information on rights

NIH stresses that it is your responsibility, as the author, to ensure that you have the right to deposit your manuscript with PMC. Be aware that some publishers require that you transfer copyright prior to acceptance for publication. Others ask you to warrant that there are no prior agreements concerning the publication and that the publisher will own all rights. Such contracts may preclude depositing your article in PMC. To make sure that you are able to comply with the NIH requirement:

Step 1	Read your publication agreement carefully. Make sure that you have the right to deposit your article with PMC.
Step 2	If there is any question about your rights, attach the Addendum to Publication Agreements for CIC Authors found at http://www.uic.edu/depts/senate/authorsrightsfinal.pdf . The addendum allows authors to share their work in a variety of circumstances, including posting the work in institutional or disciplinary repositories. The UIC Senate voted to support this addendum in the Spring of 2007, and the Provost and the Secretary of the Senate sent a letter promoting awareness of the addendum in January 2008, http://tiger.uic.edu/depts/ovcr/research/Author's%20Addendum.pdf .
Step 3	If the publisher does not accept the CIC Author's Addendum, add the following language to the publication agreement: "Journal acknowledges that Author retains the right to provide a copy of the final manuscript to the NIH upon acceptance for Journal publication, for public archiving in PubMed Central as soon as possible but no later than 12 months after publication by Journal."

Complying with the new requirement

<p>Publish with a journal that participates in PubMed Central</p>	<p>The easiest way to contribute articles to PMC is to publish in a journal that automatically transfers copies of published articles to the repository. Nothing else is required of you.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The list of journals that participate in PubMed Central is found at: http://publicaccess.nih.gov/submit_process_journals.htm</p>
<p>Publish with a journal that will deposit manuscripts for you.</p>	<p>Some publishers, while not participating in PubMed Central themselves, will upon request send copies of manuscripts to PMC. Elsevier has had a policy since 2006 to submit articles to PMC on the author's behalf; other examples of such programs are Blackwell Publishing's Online Open, Oxford Journals' Oxford Open, and Springer's Open Choice. However, some publishers charge extra fees for these programs. Please be sure to check carefully your agreement with the publisher.</p> <p>If the publisher deposits only your manuscript, rather than the final published version of the article, you will still have to sign onto the NIH Manuscript Submission System (NIHMS) (http://www.nihms.nih.gov/) to review and approve release of the article to PubMed Central.</p>
<p>Submit the manuscript yourself</p>	<p>If the journal in which you are publishing does not deposit either the published or manuscript version of your article, you will need to do it yourself using the NIHMS. Depositing a manuscript takes only a few minutes and can be done by the primary investigator or a third-party.</p> <p>Here are some things to keep in mind.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What to submit: An electronic version of the final, peer-reviewed manuscript, including all graphics and supplemental material associated with the article. Note that you will need the permission of the publisher to submit a PDF provided by them. • When to submit: No later than 12 months after the publication date. • How to submit: Go to http://www.nihms.nih.gov/, label the manuscript with the correct author names, grant #, etc., and then submit.

How the new reporting requirement will help you

Free access maximizes the visibility of your research and ensures that researchers and students around the world will have access to your article regardless of whether they or their library subscribes to the publishing journal, so that they may read and build on your work. Preliminary research suggests that articles that are freely available are cited more often and have a greater impact rating than articles that are locked away behind subscription walls.

More information

NIH has prepared an FAQ on the new reporting requirements at <http://publicaccess.nih.gov/FAQ.htm>. There is also a tutorial on the NIHMS at http://www.nihms.nih.gov/submit_process_journals.htm.

For more information on the NIH reporting requirements, journal practices regarding deposit, or the use of the CIC Copyright Addendum, contact the UIC University Library at scholcomm@uic.edu or visit the UIC NIH Public Policy web site www.uic.edu/depts/lib/projects/scholcomm/nihinitiative.shtml.

