

Water Resources Research Moving to Fully Open Access - FAQs

For questions not answered in this document, please email wrr@agu.org.

1. Why is *Water Resources Research* becoming an open access journal?

AGU remains committed to [open science and open data](#). As a part of our mission, we are focused on making science available to the widest possible audience. Open access removes subscription paywalls, which means that more people will have access to your research so they can actively cite, read and share data with the least possible restrictions.

With the growing open access requirements placed by funders on researchers around the world, this transition to an open access model also makes compliance easier. The move also means that authors of *Water Resources Research* are now able to access the AGU journals open access waiver fund, designed to help those who might be without funding, or not eligible for other funding options. Please see question #7 below for details on funding help.

Authors (or their institutions or funders) pay an open access article processing charge (APC) and retain copyright of their article which they can publish under a [Creative Commons license](#) (Choose from CC-BY, CC-BY-NC, or CC-BY-NC-ND). There are no excess page fees or any other additional fees for publication.

2. When will *Water Resources Research* become open access?

All articles in the journal will be open access as of 1 January 2024. New submissions received after **12 July 2023** must agree to pay the open access article processing charge (APC). To ensure availability of funding is not a barrier to publication, AGU provides various APC funding options for our authors, including waivers, which are detailed in this document under question #7.

3. What are the fees for publishing in *Water Resources Research*?

If you submitted your manuscript prior to 12 July 2023, you will be expected to pay any applicable excess page fees or you can choose to publish open access and pay the hybrid APC price of US \$3,000.

For submissions received after 12 July 2023, the APC will be US \$3,000. There is no base publication fee or excess page fees other than the APC for publication in all fully open access AGU journals, including *Water Resources Research*.

Fees for all AGU journals, including open access journals, can be viewed on the [pub fee table](#). To ensure availability of funding is not a barrier to publication, AGU provides various funding options for our authors, which you can find on our [funding options](#) page.

These funding options include full or discounted APC-coverage by institutions or funders, automatic discounts or waivers for authors in low- or middle-income countries, and AGU waivers. See Question #7 for details and instructions on APC funding options that will be available after 12 July 2023.

4. What if I already have a paper under consideration to *Water Resources Research*?

If your paper:

- Was submitted before 12 July 2023, is accepted, and
- Publishes in calendar year 2023

...then your paper will publish as a subscription article (copyright AGU) and you will be responsible for any excess page fees if incurred, unless you choose to publish as open access. Your subscription article will become freely available to read and download without a subscription on 1 January 2024, although the copyright will remain with AGU.

If you choose open access, your paper will publish under a [Creative Commons license](#) and you will be required to pay the open access APC. Please note that due to the transition of the billing system, orders for open access must be placed before 1 November 2023. If you need a Creative Commons license after that date, please contact us at cs-openaccess@wiley.com.

If your paper:

- Was submitted before 12 July 2023, is accepted, and
- Publishes after 1 January 2024

...then your paper will publish as open access, with copyright to the authors under a [Creative Commons license](#) with the APC waived.

You can see fees for all AGU journals, including open access journals, on the [pub fee table](#). To ensure availability of funding is not a barrier to publication, AGU provides various funding options for our authors, which you can find on our [funding options](#) page.

5. What does this mean if my paper is in revision?

It will be treated as submitted before 12 July 2023 (the same as those under consideration, see Question #4 above).

6. My submission received a Reject and Resubmit decision. What does this mean for my resubmission?

If you submit the resubmission after the 12 July 2023 deadline, it will be treated as a new submission, which requires APC payment for publication.

7. What APC funding options or waivers are available to me if I want to publish in *Water Resources Research*?

After 12 July 2023, there will be 4 APC funding options that may be available to you, including an AGU waiver.

Through arrangements with Wiley, our publishing partner, many institutions cover 100% of APC charges or offer discounts. There are also automatic waivers and discounts for authors in low- or middle-income countries covered under the [Research4Life initiative](#) in AGU's open access journals. Please note that most funding eligibility criteria are based on the Corresponding Author's (or co-Corresponding Authors') named institution or institutional location.

Please select the most applicable option when you submit your paper in GEMS (the journal's submission system):

1. Option 1: Third Party Option (via your institution's funding agreement with Wiley)

If a Corresponding Author of your paper has funding agreement with Wiley, their institution may cover your APC charges. To check your eligibility, go to this [Wiley open access account code web page](#) and find the affiliated institution or funder of the corresponding author, then copy the code. You will be asked to submit this code in GEMS – please ensure to pick the “Third Party” option when completing the Financial Information portion. Please make sure to mark the eligible author as Corresponding Author (or co-Corresponding Author) as well.

2. Option 2: Low-and middle-income Countries Waivers and Discounts

If a Corresponding Author of your paper is from an institution based on the Waivers and Discounts list, you may be eligible for an automatic 50% discount or full waiver. To see eligible countries, go to this [Wiley country discount list web page](#).

If you choose this option, select the “I request a waiver of the article publication charge for this manuscript” options in GEMS. If your country is on the [Automatic Waiver](#) list, no further information is needed. If your country is in the [Automatic Discount](#) list, enter “I request 50% Research4Life discount” in the text box. Please note that for the 50% Automatic Discount, you will be responsible to pay the remaining 50% APC. If you are not able to do this, please select Option 4 below to request a full waiver and note that the corresponding author is at an institution on the Automatic Discount list.

3. Option 3: Corresponding Author pays the APC

If you choose this option, please select the “I, corresponding author, accept responsibility for paying...” option in GEMS. If your manuscript is accepted, payment can be made by credit card, invoice or pro forma.

4. Option 4: AGU Waiver

For authors who are not eligible for third party funding, low-and middle-income countries waivers and discounts, or able to pay the APC themselves, AGU is pleased to offer a 50% discount or full waiver. Please ensure that you are not eligible for the other 3 options above prior to requesting this waiver. This is to ensure that the AGU waiver fund remains available to authors who need it most.

If you choose this option, please select the “I request a waiver of the article publication charge for this manuscript” options in GEMS and enter “I’d like to request AGU 50% discount/APC full waiver” and include in the text box below the reason for your request, giving details of how your research has been funded. The names and affiliations of all authors and all sources of funding that contributed to this study should be detailed. This text box is required to be filled out if you are requesting a waiver.

8. I have a question that is not answered in this document. What should I do?

Please email wrr@agu.org so we can assist you.