



ARC Open Access Policy 2026: guidance for researchers

Background

On 1 July 2026, the ARC’s new **Open Access Policy** came into effect. This guide summarises key requirements and advice on compliance and available support. Consult the [ARC policy](#) for complete details.

- **Effective date:** grant schemes that open for application from 1 July 2026
- **Applies to these outputs:** author accepted manuscripts (AAM); publisher’s versions; creative works that have undergone external review of an equivalent academic standard
- **Out of scope:** non-peer reviewed publications/creative works, preprints, research data

Key changes

- ✓ Articles/papers open access immediately with CC BY licence
- ✓ DOI (digital object identifier) required for all outputs
- ✓ Expanded metadata requirements
- ✓ New guidance for First Nations research
- ✓ Updated funder acknowledgement

Key requirements by type of output

Requirements	Journal articles & conference papers	Monographs, book chapters, edited volumes & research reports	Creative works
Standard requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOI • Metadata deposited in institutional repository • ARC funding acknowledgement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOI • Metadata deposited in institutional repository • ARC funding acknowledgement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOI • Metadata deposited in institutional repository • ARC funding acknowledgement
Open access timing	Immediately on publication	No later than 12 months after publication	Strongly encouraged
Routes for Open Access	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Version of Record via the publisher OR 2. Author accepted manuscript via a repository (needs rights retention*) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Version of Record via the publisher OR 2. Author accepted manuscript via a repository (needs rights retention*) 	No specified routes
UTS Support	For Route 1 - UTS Read and publish agreements may cover some or all Article Processing Charges. See the Library web site .	For research reports – deposit in UTS Figshare to get a DOI You can also deposit in reputable repositories like Zenodo for a DOI	Ask a Librarian for advice on publishing creative works.



*Rights Retention

To use Route 2 for Open Access (Author accepted manuscript via a repository), include a rights-retention statement before submitting and prior to signing a publishing agreement such as this suggested text by the ARC:

“For the purposes of compliance with the funder’s open access policy, the author has applied a CC BY licence to any Author Accepted Manuscript version arising from this submission”

First Nations Research

For research conducted **with, by or for** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, researchers must demonstrate commitment to the values of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination, leadership, sustainability and accountability through actions including:

- Use of formal research agreements
- Follow Indigenous Data Sovereignty principles including [Maiam Nayri Wingara](#)
- Share IP rights and copyright
- Co-authorship
- Use Traditional Knowledge (TK) Notices and Labels (e.g. [Local Contexts](#))
- Apply appropriate licences (**CC BY-ND** may be used)
- Align with the [AIATSIS Code of Ethics](#), [Creative Australia Protocols](#)

For full details, see the [ARC policy](#).

Support

Get advice from experts in the Library and Research Office:

[Ask a Librarian](#)

- Copyright and Rights Retention
- Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP) for publications and attribution
- Institutional repository (OPUS)
- Publishing including Read and Publish agreements
- Research data management

[Ask the Research Office](#)

- [Grant compliance & ARC Final reports](#)
- How to [deposit reports](#) to UTS Figshare