

Access to Research Publications Plan

1. PURPOSE

Genome Canada is committed to rapidly sharing the outputs of Genome Canada-funded research, including open access to publications. Genome Canada aims to enhance the visibility and impact of its funded projects, fostering a culture of openness and collaboration in the research and innovation community.

2. SCOPE

Genome Canada funded projects must provide timely access to research outputs and resources created to:

- **Enhance accessibility:** Ensure that all peer-reviewed publications arising from Genome Canada-funded research are freely accessible.
- **Promote transparency:** Foster a culture of openness and transparency in research.
- **Support innovation:** Facilitate the use and reuse of research findings to drive innovation and societal benefits.

3. DEFINITIONS

Research outputs. The diverse results produced by research projects. These outputs encompass a wide range of deliverables, including publications, data, software, and other tangible research products which contribute to the advancement of knowledge and understanding.

Open access. Making scientific research, data, code and publications freely accessible to promote transparency, collaboration, and reproducibility in research to increase the accessibility and impact of scientific knowledge.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

Research publications are one important output of the research funded by Genome Canada and open access to these publications is important to support information sharing and innovation.

Genome Canada requires that peer reviewed publications that have been supported, in whole or in part, by Genome Canada be made freely accessible online in a central or institutional repository as soon as possible, and, at the latest, six months after the publication date. In the case of projects funded under programs designed in partnership with organizations that have a longer deadline, the deadline will be made clear in the funding opportunity.

Genome Canada encourages its funded scientists to publish wherever is best for their work and makes the following recommendations:

- Submit manuscripts to a journal that offers immediate open access or offers open access within twelve months of publication.
- Submit manuscripts to a journal that automatically deposits publications in appropriate repositories, immediately or within twelve months of the date of publication.
- If a manuscript is submitted to a journal that does not offer open access itself, the journal must allow self-archiving of the peer-reviewed manuscript in an open access institutional repository within six months of publication or less.
- Although the access to research publications plan does not apply to monographs and book chapters, Genome Canada encourages authors of these types of publications to strive for open access as soon as possible.

Each project team approved for Genome Canada funding must make a commitment to comply with Genome Canada's Access to Research Publications Plan as a condition of funding. Project Leaders and their Institutions should ensure that authors are aware of and comply with this plan.

Non-compliance

Where Genome Canada-funded researchers have not complied with this plan, the following sanctions will apply:

- Where non-compliance is identified as part of ongoing progress reporting, the Administrative Genome Centre may undertake closer monitoring to prevent future non-compliance and may delay advances of funds until all papers comply.
- Where non-compliant papers are identified in a Final Report, the managing Genome Centre will withhold the final payment until all papers comply.

Exceptions

In circumstances where the details of the access to research publications plan do not apply to a particular program, it will be made clear in the Funding Opportunity.

Genome Canada may approve an exemption from all or part of the access to research publications plan where there are extenuating circumstances that justify the exemption, for example where research is focused on clinical data or industry applications where publication of data may pose an issue for users. In these cases, the applicants must provide an explanation in the data management plan submitted with their application form for evaluation by the review committee. For funded projects, the project team must make a request for an exemption through the Genome Centre for approval by Genome Canada. Genome Canada may call on the advice of Oversight Committees or other experts, as appropriate, to assist in decision making.

5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Genome Canada will monitor adherence to the access to research publications plan by funded project teams through a variety of mechanisms including oversight committees and post-award reporting. In cases of non-compliance, Genome Canada will work with the Administrative Genome Centre to assist project leaders and their institutions in meeting the requirements of the access to research publications plan.

Genome Centres will monitor adherence to the access to research publications plan by funded project teams through a variety of mechanisms including oversight committees and post-award reporting. In cases of non-compliance, the Genome Centre will work with Genome Canada and project leaders and their Institutions to meet the requirements of the access to research publications plan.

Project Leaders and their Institutions are responsible for ensuring compliance with Genome Canada's access to research publications plan.

6. POLICY HISTORY

Action

Policy issued
Policy updated
Policy converted to a plan
Plan updated

Date

September 2008
September 2016
December 2024
September 2025