

How to advocate for Biochemical Society publishing

A guide for Ambassadors and Editorial Boards

June 2024

Why we need you

When our portfolio has [transitioned](#) to open access (OA), which will be completed in 2025, we need to secure both our funding base (through library commitments) and author base (by increased submissions and publications). As representatives of the Biochemical Society, you can help raise our profile by communicating our OA mission and the importance of publishing in independent, society journals.

Know the fundamentals



We [provide a home](#) for every paper in the molecular biosciences.



We're committed to an [open science](#) agenda which includes our pledge to provide OA routes for all articles by February 2025.



Publishing in our journals directly supports the bioscience community, with surpluses funding the Biochemical Society's charitable activities.

Journal portfolio and OA model explainer



BIOCHEMICAL JOURNAL



Read & Publish (R&P) is designed for research-producing institutions **who receive** the following benefits in **all 6 journals**:

- Guaranteed unlimited OA publishing for corresponding authors
- Access to all current and back content in all 6 journals
- Publication metrics and reporting



BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY TRANSACTIONS



CLINICAL SCIENCE



Subscribe to Open (S2O) will be a renewal offer made to institutions without an R&P agreement and if there is sufficient uptake, all contents for the year will be published OA. It is therefore conditional OA and restricted to **our 5 subscription journals**.



ESSAYS IN BIOCHEMISTRY



EMERGING TOPICS IN LIFE SCIENCES



BIOSCIENCE REPORTS



Article Publishing Charges (APC) are only applicable to **1 journal**. When publishing in Bioscience Reports, our fully OA journal, an author will be charged an APC if their institution is not signed up to an R&P license.

Institutionally funded OA models (R&P and S2O) are our preferred models because they are more equitable and inclusive for scholars who do not have access to the funds necessary to cover publishing costs, so it particularly benefits researchers in global south countries and early career researchers.

How to advocate for our OA models

Step 1: Check if you're based at a Read & Publish (R&P) institution: [check here](#)

Step 2: Think about the audience you're speaking to and follow the related steps below

Speaking to librarians or influencers

Eg. Principal Investigators, university budget holders, research managers

If you're based at an R&P institution

Step 1

Share our [promotional materials](#) to raise awareness of the R&P agreement.

Step 2

Make sure your library website has accurate details about the agreement and what it means for researchers.

Step 3

Let influencers at your institution know you value the deal and tell them when you submit/publish an article with us.

If you're not based at an R&P institution

Step 1

Check if your library has existing R&P or S2O deals with other publishers to confirm familiarity with these models.

Step 2

Contact your librarian to ask they either take out a new or renew an existing subscription to one or more of our titles which will effect collective action to S2O. Or for full coverage and guaranteed OA publishing, ask they upgrade to R&P. Use this [library recommendation form](#) and emphasise we are a fully OA, not-for-profit society publisher.

Step 3

Offer to support any outreach activities by your library which promote OA agreements and share our [promotional materials](#). Encourage your colleagues to do so too.

Speaking to potential authors

If you're based at an R&P institution

Step 1

Contact colleagues to tell them they have fee-free OA publishing and encourage them to submit to a Biochemical Society journal.

Step 2

Remind colleagues to include Biochemical Society journals as their OA compliant publication venues of choice when applying for grants.

Step 3

Ask colleagues at other institutions to check if they have an R&P agreement. If not, send them a [library recommendation form](#), ticking the R&P option.

If you're not based at an R&P institution

Step 1

Ask colleagues to support your institution getting an R&P agreement. Send them a [library recommendation form](#) and ask them to share this with their contacts who might help influence the decision.

Step 2

Use our [promotional R&P materials](#) at any suitable meetings, presentations, or outreach events and let people know the benefits (to them and their institution) of an agreement.

We are happy to follow up on any discussions about OA models with institutional budget holders, librarians, etc. – please put them in contact with our [Sales team](#).