



## Policy for open access in the post-2014 Research Excellence Framework

### Summary of key points

The policy applies to journal articles and conference proceedings with an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN), accepted for publication after 1 April 2016.

The author accepted manuscript of the output must be deposited in an institutional or subject repository within three months of the date of acceptance.

The policy allows publisher embargoes to be respected and permits 'closed' deposits, where the metadata is discoverable but the full-text is only available after the embargo period.

The maximum embargoes are:

- 12 months for REF Main Panel A and REF Main Panel B
- 24 months for REF Main Panel C and REF Main Panel D

Where the publisher embargo exceeds the maximum embargo, the deposit is considered an exception and can still be submitted to the REF.

There are a number of deposit, access and technical exceptions, including options where there is third party content.

In the case of access exceptions, a closed-access deposit is still required, where the output is deposited but not publicly accessible on the institutional repository, PURE.

Credit will be given in research environment component of the REF for working towards open access for outputs outside the scope of the policy.

For more information, see the [full policy](#) and [HEFCE's frequently asked questions](#).

You can find instructions about how to upload documents to Pure on the [Pure](#) web pages.