

# Open Access Publishing

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



### **What is ProQuest Open Access Publishing?**

Open access is a term used to describe content that a reader can access free of charge. The goal of ProQuest Open Access Publishing is to ensure the widest possible distribution of a given publication, such that researchers around the world can easily access important research and analysis.

### **Why is ProQuest offering the Open Access Publishing option?**

Authors have asked ProQuest for a way to make their dissertation or thesis open access through ProQuest, resulting in the ProQuest Open Access Publishing option. The movement in academia toward open access publishing has been gaining strength. ProQuest, as a scholarly publisher and steward of graduate research, is supportive of this movement and is providing an open access publishing option to all graduate schools.

### **How much does it cost to publish graduate works on an open access basis?**

To support the perpetual hosting of a graduate work, there is a \$95 Open Access Publishing fee. However, graduate works that are submitted under Traditional Publishing to ProQuest via the ETD Administrator do not incur a fee—ETD submission is free.

### **When should students publish their graduate works on an open access basis?**

It depends on the nature of their research. If they are focused on ensuring the widest possible distribution of their work, or they have benefited from public funding, they would be well served by the ProQuest Open Access Publishing option. It is the best way to ensure worldwide access to their graduate research and builds upon the open access likely provided by their university.

### **Can graduate works with multimedia material be published as open access?**

Yes, ProQuest recommends publishing and storing common file types such as .jpg for images and .wav for audio files. The multimedia materials will be hosted along with the full text PDF on ProQuest Dissertations & Theses (PQDT) Open as well as in ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global (PQDT) database.]

### **Can graduate students choose the Open Access Publishing option and embargo access for a limited time?**

Yes, graduate students can choose to embargo, or restrict access to, the full text of an open access graduate. The embargo begins when the graduate work is submitted to ProQuest. Should an author feel a need to embargo an open access graduate work for longer than 2 years, ProQuest will work with the author and his/her graduate school to determine the best course of action.

### **What if a dissertation published as open access contains copyrighted material?**

If material covered under another copyright is discovered as part of the publishing process, and the author has not supplied the necessary permission to use it in his/her work, we will not make the graduate work available until the issue is resolved. It is the author's responsibility to supply any necessary copyright clearance at the time of submission.

### **Will authors get royalties for versions that are sold?**

No, they will not. When authors choose to publish open access, they waive their rights to royalty payments.

### **Can authors "retract" their decision to publish with Open Access Publishing?**

Yes. If an author requests it, we will change the status and remove the graduate work from PQDT Open. The author may need to pay a republishing fee and sign an agreement acknowledging the change in open access status. ProQuest does not have the ability to remove other digital versions posted elsewhere on the web, including in an institutional repository, and cannot be responsible for access changes to those versions.

# Open Access Publishing

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) *continued*



## **Can an author who published their dissertation before 2007 opt for Open Access Publishing?**

Yes, authors can choose to retrospectively convert their dissertation or thesis to open access. The same additional \$95 fee applies, and the author will need to sign a new publishing agreement.

## **Can a library store open access graduate works in an institutional repository?**

Yes, if the library believes that it has obtained the necessary permissions. When using the ProQuest ETD Administrator to submit dissertations to ProQuest, a copy of the "pre-print" version of the dissertation can be sent to the library at the same time the manuscript is delivered to ProQuest. Storing a graduate work in your institutional repository is a great compliment to making it available in PQDT Open and PQDT. Each provides a unique avenue of access and increases the discoverability of each individual graduate work.

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