



Policy of Open Access to Scientific Literature

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Introduction

Open access to scientific literature promotes broader dissemination of the results of occupational health and safety (OHS) research among the research community and the working world. The Institut de recherche Robert-Sauvé en santé et en sécurité du travail (IRSST) therefore encourages its scientific staff and all researchers whose work it funds either in whole or in part or who benefit from its scholarship program to ensure that the articles resulting from their work be made publicly accessible within one year of their publication in a scholarly journal.

Internal researchers

The IRSST asks all its scientists to comply with this policy. When they are ready to submit an article, they must take the necessary steps to retain certain key rights in their work¹. During this process, the Institute's scientists will be able to benefit from the assistance of the Communications Division (CD) to find out more about the publisher's copyright policy. Moreover, as soon as their articles become openly accessible, the CD will ensure that they are archived on the IRSST's website.

External researchers

The IRSST urges all researchers whose work it funds and all its scholarship recipients to publish their work in scholarly journals that support open access or that allow free, universal access to the articles on their websites within one year of the articles' publication². The Institute also offers external researchers the opportunity to archive their openly accessible articles on its website.

In no way is this policy designed to prevent researchers from publishing their articles in journals of their choice that require a wholesale transfer of copyright or that require payment of publication fees³.

¹ To retain certain rights over their articles, authors may add an addendum to their publication agreement. The Canadian Association of Research Libraries provides researchers with such an addendum, as well as an explanatory brochure at <http://www.carl-abrc.ca/projects/author/author-f.html#addendum>.

Alternatively, authors may opt to add their own points to the publication agreement to the effect that the publisher of the journal recognizes that the researcher/author is authorized to archive an electronic copy of his/her final, peer-reviewed manuscript in an institutional repository to ensure that it is openly accessible to the public.

² Useful resources are available for anyone wishing to find out about publisher copyright policies, such as SHERPA/RoMEO at <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/>. A directory of open access journals is also available at <http://www.doaj.org/>. You are advised to inquire about copyright policies yourself by contacting the journal's editorial team directly.

³ The IRSST does not reimburse authors for fees charged by publishers to deposit their articles on institutional repositories.