**Changes to NIH Public Access Policy Effective July 1, 2025**

Researchers take note: It is important to understand and comply with the **New NIH Public Access Policy, effective *July 1 2025*.** Failure to comply could have serious implications, including delays or **loss of current and future NIH grant funding** and increased institutional scrutiny from federal agencies. It is essential that all researchers funded by the NIH understand and act on the [**upcoming policy changes**](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-25-101.html)**.**

**The Health Sciences Library and School of Medicine Office of Research are here to help!**

**What’s Changing?**Beginning **July 1, 2025**, the **2024 NIH Public Access Policy** mandates that **all peer-reviewed journal articles resulting from NIH-funded research must be deposited into PubMed Central (PMC) and made immediately publicly available upon publication.** Embargo periods will **no longer be permitted**.

**What This Means for You**Previously, many publishers deposited articles into PMC after an embargo period at no cost. Under the new policy:

* Articles **must be deposited into PMC at the time of publication**.
* **Embargo periods are no longer allowed**.
* Submitting to bioRxiv or other repositories **does not meet the requirements.**
* Some publishers may still submit the article on your behalf, but **may now charge a fee** for immediate open access.
* **Uploading the publisher's PDF** may **violate copyright**, depending on your publication agreement.

**How the Health Sciences Library Can Help:**  
We’re here to support you in navigating these changes and ensuring compliance:

* [**Online guidance**](https://guides.hsl.virginia.edu/sci-writing/nihpublicaccess) or [**consultations**](https://guides.hsl.virginia.edu/consultation-request) on submission processes and **free** methods to comply with the Policy
* Guidance on **uploading the correct version**—whether the publisher’s PDF (when allowed) or the **final peer-reviewed Author Accepted Manuscript**, which also meets NIH requirements.
* Help using the **NIH Manuscript Submission (NIHMS) system** or **My NCBI** to track compliance.

We strongly encourage you to review your current and upcoming publications and reach out to us for assistance in preparing for this transition.

Please don’t hesitate to [**contact the library**](https://guides.hsl.virginia.edu/consultation-request)with questions or to schedule a consultation.