

**From:** Dave Hone  
**Subject:** RFI: Public Access to Peer-Reviewed Scholarly Publications Resulting From Federally Funded Research  
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I am writing as a currently unemployed researcher. Even though I am currently between research positions I am still engaged in the scientific process of producing scientific papers.

As stands, the dominant model for publication of research is within one of the numerous private journals (such as is run by companies like Elsevier. While others exist that are run as not-for profit or open access (like PLoS ONE) they are in the massive minority.

Currently most research worldwide is generated (ultimately) by the tax payer as the work is funded by a central government grant. This is then submitted to a journal. Unpaid academic then handle editorial, review, and even formatting and typesetting duties for \*free\* (or at best token reward such as free copies of a single journal for a few months). They then hand over the copyright of that work in its entirety to the company. If they want to distribute this public funded work, or if others want to see this publicly funded work, they then have to pay for access to it.

In short, the scientists (paid by taxpayers) do the research, and most of the publication process, but hand over all of this to money-making publishers and then pay them to see any other related work. Publishers have enjoyed this over thousands of researchers for decades. Changing the system to protect this 'right' that is more an accident of history is not beneficial to science and is not beneficial to the U.S. taxpayer. All science will suffer and the only people to benefit will be those who profit from the exploitation of federal funds.

Yours

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