

## Guidelines for funding open access book publications

Version dated 02.04.2020

The [Regulations on the funding of Open Access publications](#) form the basis for the submission of applications for the funding of open access book publications. These guidelines provide applicants and publishers with additional information on selected issues relating to the open access publication process.

You can also find detailed information on funding for open access book publications on the SNSF's [open access website](#).

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## 1. Funded publications

SNSF grants to cover book processing charges (BPCs) are awarded for the open access publication of **monographs** and **anthologies**.

Monographs are comprehensive, peer-reviewed scientific works in accordance with Article 3 of the Regulations on the funding of open access publications. At the SNSF, this publication category includes dissertations and habilitations - if processed by a publisher with a view to publication in book form - as well as legal commentaries and editions.

## 2. Financing via modular BPCs

The costs of open access book publication are reimbursed in the form of modular book processing charges (BPCs) and cover the following **publishing services**:

- **Quality assurance:**  
Manuscript selection and peer review procedure, expert editing and/or proofreading
- **Creating the digital version:**  
Typesetting, layout and cover, image processing and image reproduction rights, digitisation
- **Distribution:**  
Marketing, publication of the open access publication on the publisher's website and distribution via additional platforms, provision of the conventional, digital and open access-specific metadata specified by the SNSF (see section 5)

The SNSF will reimburse book processing charges (BPC) up to a maximum of the actual costs incurred (Article 10 of the *Regulations on the funding of Open Access publications*). It expects publishers to provide a transparent range of open access book publications on their website and reserves the right to ask for evidence of the sums requested where appropriate.

The modular BPCs are structured as follows:

- **Base module:** Up to CHF 15,000 for an open access book publication of up to 750,000 characters (including spaces).

Please provide a link to the publisher's open access range on mySNF.

- **Supplementary module "higher number of characters":**
  - An additional lump sum of CHF 3,000 for up to 250,000 additional characters; or
  - An additional lump sum of CHF 5,000 more than 1 million characters.

**No** proof of costs (e.g. quotation or costings) is required when applying for these two modules. Please specify the number of characters in the publication on mySNF ("Financial requirement" data container). The SNSF reserves the right to verify that the costs are reasonable.

- **Supplementary module "layout and image rights":** An additional sum of up to CHF 5,000 in the case of demonstrably increased costs for layout and image rights.

Evidence should be provided for the increased layout costs (e.g. due to design or the incorporation of numerous graphics, special characters, margins or similar) and/or image rights in the form of the publisher's quotation or an invoice for the individual image purchases.

- **Supplementary module “enriched e-book”:** An additional sum of up to CHF 5,000.

The SNSF considers an “enriched e-book” to be a digital book publication that offers additional functionality compared with a conventional PDF or ePUB (with a link to the table of contents and footnotes), such as audio or video files, links to external websites or lexicons and interactive elements. This additional functionality must also be available in the open access version.

When applying for this additional module, the SNSF stipulates that the features of the digital book publication or the special functionality be described and its programming demonstrated in the form of a quotation.

- **Supplementary module “foreign language proofreading”:** An additional sum of up to CHF 5,000.

When applying for this additional module, evidence must be provided that the publication is not in the author’s native language and that the publication's visibility and the reception of its research findings are thereby increased.

The SNSF does not make any contributions towards the printing costs of monographs and anthologies. If the publication is also issued in printed form, the SNSF's BPC grants must be used exclusively for the digital version (first digital copy).

### 3. Quality control (peer review)

Quality assurance for monographs and anthologies is the publishers’ responsibility. They are obliged to conduct a peer review and document it (Article 9 of the *Regulations on the funding of Open Access publications*). Applications may only be submitted once the peer review procedure is complete and the documentation is available.

The **documentation for the peer review procedure**, which must be submitted to the SNSF along with the application as one document, contains the following documents:

- At least one independent, external and meaningful review in written form,
- A response to any critical points in the review and a statement by the publisher regarding the extent to which the manuscript was revised on the basis of these criticisms.

The revised manuscript is to be submitted to the SNSF as part of the application.

The peer review procedure must meet the following SNSF requirements:

- The reviewer must work in the specialist field addressed by the publication.
- The reviewer must be considered to be independent and external. In other words, they are not involved in the publisher's selection of manuscripts or the creation of the publication (e.g. series editor), nor must they have any conflict of interests with any of the people involved in the publication (editor and/or author).

A potential conflict of interests exists if the reviewer and the writer

- work or will work in the same institution;
- have close family connections or are in a close personal relationship (relatives, spouses/partners, close friends);
- are, have recently been or will in the foreseeable future be in a professionally dependent or competitive relationship;
- have published jointly within the last five years as a result of close collaboration; or

- if the reviewer could be biased in their assessment of the publication's quality for other reasons.
- The review must be meaningful and investigate the scientific quality of the publication accordingly. The reviewer must have access to the complete manuscript for the purposes of the review. Reviews of book concepts (“proposals”) will not be accepted.
- In the case of anthologies, the review will cover each individual contribution. If it is thematically appropriate, the individual contributions in the anthology may be checked by different reviewers. The anthology must also be assessed as an overall publication in terms of its homogeneity and cohesion.
- In the case of doctoral theses and habilitations, reviews undertaken by the university for the purposes of academic qualification may be used. However, a separate statement must be submitted, outlining the extent to which criticisms in the publication's review have been considered for the final publication.

#### 4. Publishing details

The publishing details for open access book publications must contain the following information (Article 17 of the *Regulations on the funding of Open Access publications*):

- Year of publication
- ISBN number(s): If a printed book or a paid-for digital version are being published in addition to the open access version supported by the SNSF, a separate ISBN number must be assigned for each version.
- Digital Object Identifier: The Digital Object Identifier is a unique, permanent digital identifier for physical, digital or abstract objects. The DOI number is assigned by the publisher (see Section 4).
- Creative Commons licence: Monographs and anthologies financed by the SNSF should be made accessible at least by means of the CC BY-NC-ND (creative commons: created by, non-commercial, no derivative) licence. The SNSF, and also the Open Access Scholarly Publisher Association (OASPA), recommends using the CC-BY licence. You can find more information on the different CC licences and how they are issued at [www.creativecommons.ch](http://www.creativecommons.ch), [www.creativecommons.org](http://www.creativecommons.org) and [oaspa.org/why-cc-by/](http://oaspa.org/why-cc-by/)

The publishing details of the open access publication should only specify the CC licence, since this adequately governs the use of the publication. Citing the publisher's traditional copyright, according to which all rights are reserved to it, contradicts the CC licence. Sample publishing details can be found in the appendix.

- Comment on the SNSF's funding of the publication: The SNSF funding should be mentioned in the publishing details, e.g. in the following form: “Published with the support of the Swiss National Science Foundation”. The SNSF logo does not have to be included in the publishing details.

#### 5. DOI

Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) perform three basic functions:

- Unique identifier for a publication
- Permanent link to the full text of this publication

- Extended metadata for this publication

There are several agencies with which publishers can register DOIs. The following three agencies are relevant for publications:

- [Crossref](#)
- [DataCite](#)
- [mEDRA](#)

**The SNSF recommends that publishers register DOIs via Crossref.** Crossref now offers a greatly expanded metadata schema and various services for scientific publications. Publishers who are members of the [OAPEN Library](#) can also have DOIs for their publications registered through this body (via Crossref). Customers of mEDRA can forward DOI metadata to Crossref by means of an additional agreement. The [DOI Desk at ETH Zurich](#) can also offer support in assigning DOIs (via Datacite).

Metadata schemas

- [Crossref Metadata](#)
- [Data Cite Metadata Schema](#)
- [mEDRA Schema](#)

When assigning DOIs, please ensure that the primary URL stored leads to the book announcement page on the publisher's website, not directly to the PDF. This makes it possible to view additional information on the publication. The option to download the open access publication must be clearly visible on the book announcement page. The download must not involve registering on the publisher's website.

## 6. Metadata

To enable the BPCs awarded to be paid out to the publisher, the SNSF stipulates that metadata on the publication be provided as part of the contribution approval process (Art. 15 of the *Regulations on the funding of Open Access publications*). For anthologies, this metadata must be provided for each individual contribution.

The first stage of the contribution approval process involves supplying the DOI:

- If the DOI exists and is active (i.e. the contribution has already been published), the metadata assigned to the DOI will automatically be transferred in the output data. Applicants then only need to use mySNF to add any metadata that has not already been stored.
- If the DOI exists but is not active, the output data must be supplied in full.
- Likewise, if the DOI does not exist, the output data must be supplied in full.

The following metadata is required in the output data for continued storage in the SNSF's P3 research database, the OAPEN library and the Swiss National Library:

<b>Conventional metadata</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Type of publication*</li> </ul>	Default is "scientific publication – peer reviewed"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publication format*</li> </ul>	Selection: Book Editorial board (anthology)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Title*</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Editor* (for anthologies)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Authors*</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Series title</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volume number</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publisher*</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place of publication*</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Status*</li> </ul>	Selection: Accepted/In press/Published
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publication date*</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ISBN*</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Series ISSN</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language of publication*</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thema-Code*</li> </ul>	<a href="https://ns.editeur.org/thema/en">https://ns.editeur.org/thema/en</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keywords* (in English)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abstract* (in English)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding organisation</li> </ul>	The SNSF expects the funding organisation and the contribution number to be specified in the metadata passed to the DOI agency. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructions for <a href="#">Crossref</a></li> <li>SNSF Funding Data Identifier (formerly Fundref ID): 10.13039/501100001711</li> <li>The contribution number should be supplied in full (e.g.: B-0010_177117)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribution number</li> </ul>	
<b>Digital metadata</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DOI*</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ORCID (if available)</li> </ul>	The SNSF expects the ORCID to be specified in the metadata passed to the DOI agency. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please refer to: <a href="#">ORCID in Publication Workflows: A Step-by-Step Guide for Publishers</a></li> </ul>
<b>Open access-specific metadata</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licence</li> </ul>	The SNSF expects the licence to be specified in the metadata passed to the DOI agency. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructions for <a href="#">Crossref</a></li> </ul>

The SNSF also recommends that the references in the bibliography be supplied to Crossref in a machine-readable format. See <https://i4oc.org>.

## Appendix – sample publishing information

Published with the support of the Swiss National Science Foundation

Published by  
Sample Publications  
24 Sample Street  
2004 Sampletown  
[www.sample-publications.ch](http://www.sample-publications.ch)

Text © The author 2018

Cover illustration: Sampling the heavens  
Editors: Anna and Hubert Sample, Sample Publications  
Overall production: Sample Publications, Sampletown

ISBN (Hardback): 978-x-xxxxxx-xx-x  
ISBN (PDF): 978-x-xxxxxx-xx-x  
ISBN (EPUB): 978-x-xxxxxx-xx-x  
ISBN (Mobile/Kindle): 978-x-xxxxxx-xx-x

DOI: <https://doi.org/xx.xxxx/x>



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