Support for Article Processing Charges
LLED Policy

LLED has established an open access author fund of $25,000 to pay for or subsidize Article Processing Charges (APC) for LLED researchers who wish to publish their work in open access gold journals; that is, journals that do not need a subscription or any other form of payment to access the content. Faculty members are expected to build such costs into their grant applications, where that is possible (e.g., SSHRC).

Who can apply?

All LLED faculty, graduate students, and emeriti who have had a peer-reviewed article accepted to an Open Access journal that meets the funding criteria.

Only the first author is eligible to apply for the Open Access Fund.

Only one article will be funded per author per year.

LLED will fund a maximum of $2000 USD per year for each researcher, at a maximum of $2000 USD per article.

Researchers who have exhausted all other funding sources – including their own SSHRC or other research funds, their LLED PD fund (if eligible), and UBC’s SoTL Dissemination Fund (https://isotl.ctlt.ubc.ca/sotl-dissemination-fund/).

The fund will be disbursed on a first come, first served basis.

What does the fund cover?

The fund will cover Article Processing Charges for articles that have been accepted to gold open access journals that meet the following criteria:

a) Journal content is peer-reviewed.

b) The journal is listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (doaj.org) and/or openly adheres to rigorous editorial and publication ethics (for example: COPE Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors, and the COPE/DOAJ/OASPA/WAME Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing).

c) Journal does not charge subscription fees for any of its content. All articles are immediately available online at no cost to the reader.

d) Author retains copyright over his or her work (e.g., the journal uses Creative Commons licensing or similar).

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Other conditions:

A copy of the funded paper must be submitted by fund recipients to cIRcle – the University of British Columbia's digital repository for research and teaching materials (https://circle.ubc.ca) immediately after initial publication.

What’s Not Covered

The fund has two main objectives:

- to nurture a true Open Access publishing environment wherein readers do not pay for access, and
- to encourage authors to retain copyright so they can release their work under Creative Commons licensing.

The fund will not normally cover open access author fees in gated or hybrid journals. Gated journals are those that require subscription payments before most of their articles can be read. Hybrid journals are those that charge subscription fees for most content, but will make an article available through open access if the author pays a fee. If the library already makes a subscription payment for a journal title, we cannot sustain additional author payments for that same title.

You should also be aware of predatory open access publishers that exploit the author-pays model of open access publishing for their own profit. Articles submitted to suspected predatory journals will not be funded.