


DEAL contracts with Springer Nature and Wiley

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The German Rectors' Conference was commissioned by the Alliance of German Science Organisations to initiate the DEAL project in order to conclude nationwide licence agreements for the entire portfolio of electronic journals (e-journals) of major science publishers.

DEAL negotiates on behalf of almost all German academic institutions such as universities, universities of applied sciences, research institutions, state and regional libraries.

Aims of project DEAL:

- The DEAL institutions have permanent full-text access to the entire title portfolio (e-journals) of the selected publishers.
- All publications by authors from German institutions are automatically made open access (CC-BY, incl. peer review).
- Appropriate pricing according to a simple, future-oriented calculation model based on the volume of publications.

The contract between the [project DEAL and Springer Nature](#) was signed on 8 January 2020. This contract differs only in a few details from the [contract with the publisher Wiley](#), which was signed on 15 January 2019. The administrative/technical implementation with Wiley has been completed so that authors can publish Open Access under DEAL conditions. The implementation with Springer Nature will be realised in the coming months.

What changes for authors?

- All publications by authors from German institutions participating in DEAL will be published Open Access (unless you as an author actively decide against it). This means that the publications are permanently and freely available worldwide.
- The so-called "Publish-and-Read" fees are paid centrally; authors have nothing to do with this in the first instance. It is possible, however, that there are internal regulations on cost sharing. In the case of certain journals, additional colour or page fees may apply, which will be invoiced separately.
- The submission workflow changes for authors. While it is not yet clear how Springer Nature will design the submission workflow, a web-based "Author Dashboard" has been provided by Wiley for editing after acceptance of the article.
- Publishing in original Open-Access-journals (around 600 journals at Springer Nature, effective August 2020; 110 journals at Wiley, since Jan. 2019): There is a 20% discount on the article processing charge (APC) (exceptions: Scientific Reports and Nature Communications).
- The DEAL institutions have permanent full-text access to the entire title portfolio (e-journals) of Springer Nature as well as Wiley. Excluded from the Springer Nature contract are all Nature journals as well as magazines (e.g. Scientific American, Spektrum der Wissenschaft) and technical journals (e.g. ATZ, MTZ).

Notes on how to use the Wiley Dashboard:

Publish Open Access

Selecting Open Access for your publication is not mandatory, but the following option is already preset by default in the Dashboard: "Yes, I would like to make my article OnlineOpen". Keep this default setting and benefit from all the advantages of Open Access. Please also note that the decision for or against Open Access has no influence on the costs; your institution will in any case pay the PAR fee agreed with the publisher (see below).

Select CC-BY as licence

For journals that offer CC-BY for all authors, the CC-BY license is listed first. CC-BY is the freest type of license, which only requires that the authors name be mentioned. The CC-BY variant thus allows the greatest possible re-use of research results. Some journals currently only offer CC-BY to authors whose research funders have prescribed the CC-BY license.

How do the national DEAL agreements differ from the previous "hybrid" publishing in closed access journals?

When choosing the hybrid option in a closed-access journal, a single article is published open access based on the model offered by the publisher. In addition to the subscription costs paid by the institutions' libraries, a publication fee is due. This fee is often paid from project or departmental funds.

In the case of DEAL contracts, a fixed Publish and Read Fee (PAR Fee) is due, which is settled centrally. This fee is not the same as a publication fee (APC) that is often charged. It also includes the cost of read access to approximately 1900 titles of Springer Nature journals or 1600 Wiley titles.

In addition, the DEAL contracts offer further advantages, which are listed at <https://www.projekt-deal.de/wiley-vertrag> and <https://www.projekt-deal.de/springer-nature-vertrag>. Among other things, favourable conditions could be negotiated for the original Open-Access-journals through a 20% discount on the APCs in the publishers' price lists.

Further information: <https://www.projekt-deal.de/faq-fur-autorinnen>