FAQs for Editors

Thank you to our editors for your insights, comments and questions during the Editors’ Summit sessions held on November 26 and December 2, 2020.

Here we offer a summary of answers to the most frequently asked questions, which we hope you will find helpful and informative.

Contents

Tools & Systems .............................................................................................................................................. 1
  1. How do I make requests for system tools and changes? ........................................................................ 1
  2. I need support using the review forum .................................................................................................... 1
  3. I need support running a successful Research Topic ................................................................................ 1

APCs & Waivers ............................................................................................................................................. 2
  4. What is Frontiers’ waiver and discount policy? ...................................................................................... 2
  5. What is Frontiers’ position on waivers and discounts for editors and reviewers? .............................. 2
  6. How are Frontiers’ APCs spent? .............................................................................................................. 2

Journal Indexes ............................................................................................................................................ 3
  7. Are Frontiers’ journals part of industry-standard indexes? ................................................................. 3
Tools & Systems

1. How do I make requests for system tools and changes?

Our technology teams roll out new tools and improvements to our publishing platform throughout the year. Several of the suggestions and requests we received have already been implemented and new suggestions have been forwarded to the relevant teams.

Feedback from the community about our platform is incredibly helpful, so please send suggestions to: platform.feedback@frontiersin.org

Here is a list of resources available to assist you during peer review:

2. I need support using the review forum

Here is a list of resources available to assist you during peer review:

- Peer Review Process page on the Frontiers website
- Peer Review for Associate Editors: webinar in English
- Peer Review for Associate Editors: webinar in Chinese
- Associate Editor guidelines
- Online Help Center - Manuscript review

If you did not find what you are looking for, please reach out to your journal team or our Help Desk: support@frontiersin.org.

3. I need support running a successful Research Topic

Here is a list of resources available to assist you in running a Research Topic, including on peer review:

- Research Topic Guidelines for Guest Associate Editors
- Guiding your Research Topic to success: video series for Guest Associate Editors

If you did not find what you are looking for, please reach out to your journal team or our Help Desk: support@frontiersin.org.
APCs & Waivers

4. What is Frontiers’ waiver and discount policy?

Frontiers has always allocated fee support to eliminate any potential barriers to publication, and enable more science to be published as Open Access. Our analysis showed the most effective way to achieve this is to allocate financial support to research fields or geographical areas with less funding available for open access publishing. In 2020 to date, we have waived more than USD 15.6 million of publishing fees on 8,037 articles, including more than USD 5 million for COVID research.

Authors and institutions with insufficient funding are eligible for full or partial APC fee support, provided their article passes our independent and rigorous peer review. In order to apply for fee support, please complete our online application form.

More information can be found on our Fee Policy and Publishing Fees pages.

5. What is Frontiers’ position on waivers and discounts for editors and reviewers?

We recognize the central and critical role of our editors in peer-review and have issued numerous waivers and discounts to editors as outlined above. However, to further recognise your editorial contributions, we will be implementing an incentive and reward scheme in 2021.

More information on our current policy can be found on our Fee Policy page.

6. How are Frontiers' APCs spent?

Frontiers' business model is Gold Open Access. This means that Article Processing Charges (APCs) cover all services associated with high-quality publishing, including the peer-review, publication, dissemination and communication of research articles.

As the sole source of revenue, 100% of our Article Processing Charges (APCs) income is being invested to cover the costs associated with publishing certified research at the highest quality, on our custom built Open Science platform. This includes managing large editorial boards, maintaining a real-time, online collaborative review forum, disseminating research and developing new publishing technologies and Artificial Intelligence.
Expenditure is distributed on a per-article basis across:

- Journal operations
- Publication costs
- Communication
- IT & innovation
- Growth
- General & administration expenditure
- Honoraria & awards
- Discounts and fee support

More information is available on our Fee Policy and Publishing Fees pages, or watch the presentation of our Chief Executive Editor, Fred Fenter, at our May 2020 Editors’ Summit.

Journal Indexes

7. Are Frontiers’ journals part of industry-standard indexes?

We ensure all journals are indexed as soon as they meet the necessary criteria. This includes Web of Science, Scopus, and all other industry-standard indexes.

Some indexes require several years of publication record. For example, Web of Science and Scopus require a minimum of two years' publishing record before a new journal can apply to be indexed.

See the "About" page of each journal for its full index listing.