

Is publishing in an Open Access journal the only way to do Open Access?

No.

Publishing in a (pay-to-publish or free-to-publish) Open Access journal constitutes the **Gold Road** towards Open Access. Open Access works published via the Gold Road are *immediately* openly accessible and are usually protected by an open licence, such as [Creative Commons](#) .

However, there is an alternative way to publish in Open Access, namely the **Green Road**. The Green Road refers to the parallel publication of a version of the manuscript in an open repository, or *self-archiving*. Open repositories can be institutional, as our own [SERVAL](#), or disciplinary. The publication is often *delayed* (embargo period) and allowed only for the author accepted manuscript (AAM), also known as postprint. This is the manuscript accepted for publication (post peer-reviewed), but before all copyediting by the editor. There are no costs for researchers to follow this road.

Below you can find a scheme that shows the available roads to Open Access.

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