

A horizontal bar at the top of the page, with a yellow section on the left and a black section on the right.

# D2O

Direct  
to Open

A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner of the black bar, consisting of a grid of gray triangles pointing in various directions.

MIT Press Direct to Open (D2O)

**GENERAL PROSPECTUS**



**Direct to Open (D2O)** is a collective action model built to support the diamond open access publication of digital monographs from the MIT Press. Open scholarship benefits authors, readers, and the academy at large. At the same time, the traditional, market-based business model for scholarly monographs no longer works. **D2O** seeks to move digital scholarly books—monographs and edited volumes—from a gated purchase model to an open, community-supported approach. **D2O** brings libraries and the MIT Press together to open access to knowledge in a new way.

## **MIT PRESS AND OPEN ACCESS**

The MIT Press is a leading publisher of books and journals at the intersection of science, technology, and the arts. Press publications are known for their intellectual daring, scholarly standards, and distinctive design.

Since its founding in 1962, the MIT Press has been changing the rules of engagement between academic authors and their readers. Reflecting and amplifying the values of an educational institution that places a premium on experimentation, invention, and open information access, the Press was one of the first publishers to exploit the potential of the internet. It has also been a leader in open access book publishing for nearly three decades, beginning in 1995 with the publication of William Mitchell's *City of Bits*—a work which appeared simultaneously in print and in a dynamic, open web edition.

### **A better way to publish scholarly books**

Before the launch of Direct to Open, open access books at the MIT Press were funded primarily on a single title or small subject collection basis. While this allowed us to gradually open more of our books, it did not provide a long-term, sustainable way to open our monographs immediately upon publication or at scale. We needed a clearer model to solve the market failure for monographs, which have seen a steady decline in sales from 1,500 copies in the 1990s, to a present level of around 250 copies or fewer per title.

Like most academic presses, the MIT Press has attempted to counterbalance the decline in sales of monographs for years by cross-subsidizing them with any available surpluses from other publication programs, including trade book sales, journal subscriptions, and textbook sales. In the late 2010s, however, we decided that it was time to seek a new





solution that would better serve our scholarly authors and the research monographs that are vital to the Press's mission.

### **Need for new books models**

Long-form works are still central to many disciplines, particularly in the humanities and social sciences. Monographs are not merely the output of research, but an integral part of the research process itself. Book processing charges (BPCs), where the burden to find open access funding is placed on the author, are neither equitable nor scalable. Even for authors at well-funded institutions, BPCs are not always in reach; for researchers at less well funded institutions, they are near impossible. **By not relying on BPCs, D2O provides the opportunity for all authors, regardless of their funding or institution, to publish open access.** All monograph authors at MIT Press will know they can reap the benefits of having an open access book. Sharing the costs across institutions helps to bring the fees down for all institutions for a more accessible model.

## **PARTNERING TO OPEN MIT PRESS MONOGRAPHS**

### **How does D2O work?**

Libraries and consortia worldwide have the opportunity to make a strategic choice and enable scores of titles each year to become openly available without BPCs and with real local benefits for supporting libraries. Rather than opening access to books on a title-by-title basis, D2O allows the Press to open its complete list of scholarly books published in a given calendar year. The model seeks to fund collections totaling around 80 books per year.

Libraries that commit to support D2O also receive the benefit of access to the corresponding backfile for that collection. The complete collection backfile offers access to approximately 2,400 scholarly titles on the MIT Press Direct platform spanning the publishing history of the Press. The Humanities and Social Science and STEAM collections contain around 1,200 titles each. Participating libraries also receive discounting on the trade book collection on the MIT Press Direct platform.

We are asking libraries and consortia to commit to supporting the model between now and November 30, 2024.





## **What is made available and how?**

Monographs and edited scholarly works published in 2025 will become eligible for D2O when the model reaches the fixed financial success threshold. To ensure that we accommodate researcher needs and library budgets, we offer libraries the opportunity to support the complete collection, or one of two, non-overlapping subject collections: Humanities & Social Sciences, and STEAM (STEM + Art & Design). If only one collection reaches the threshold, we will open that collection. If commitments for the complete collection reach a funding level equivalent to that of a single subject collection but there is no subject-level preference, the press will consider opening a group of titles by publishing season (Spring and Fall). If we meet the threshold for both collections by the deadline, we will open all the titles in the model. If we pass the threshold for both collections by the end of the commitment window, we will look to redistribute the surplus across supporting libraries. If the model does not reach any set threshold for any collection by the deadline, libraries that commit to supporting D2O before the set deadline will receive term access to the monograph backfile and will not be invoiced for the commitment fee.

Books will be open access upon publication on the MIT Press Direct platform, the most comprehensive site for MIT Press eBooks. Books in the program are published under a CC BY-NC-ND license, with case-by-case consideration for authors who request a different license.

We work with major discovery services to ensure our resources are visible including providing MARC and KBART to OCLC, EBSCO EDS, and the Clarivate/ProQuest/ExLibris services(Alma, Primo, Summon). We are in frequent contact with libraries and our discovery partners to coordinate prompt record delivery and ensure that libraries are able to access and use the collections they need. We also make records available on our platform for direct download. Currently, we offer an OA books MARC collection and dedicated D2O collections. Librarians can download COUNTER reports on demand and set up SUSHI retrieval directly in our administrator dashboard. New usage statistics become available after the fifth day of each month for the prior one.

Usage reports are available for open access titles, including for books that are published OA under the D2O model. Any use that comes from IP addresses affiliated with an institutional account will appear on that institution's COUNTER usage reports. Capturing non-affiliated usage is more challenging. Functionality on the Silverchair platform allows us to capture more OA books usage than we have previously and allows us to provide aggregate usage data for supporting libraries though it still may not account for all use of open access editions.





In addition to the institution-specific COUNTER reports and SUSHI data that are available to participating libraries on-demand, we also regularly produce and share reports on the impact of the program as well as any other valuable insights we gain from working with this cooperative model.

We keep our general interest (“trade”) titles in a separate collection on our Direct platform, available for purchase as DRM-free eBooks, as before. D2O supporting libraries receive a 25% discount on the trade books collection.

We also maintain an exclusions list to make it clear which titles are not eligible for D2O or included in our Trade Collection. We do not currently make our textbooks available on the Direct platform and these books will also not be eligible for the D2O model. We also occasionally need to exclude titles for which we are unable to secure digital rights.

For transparency and ease of identification of excluded titles, we will continue to publicly maintain an exclusions list as well as a Trade Collection title list.

### **What does it cost and why?**

D2O moves beyond conventional FTE-based classifications to provide institutions with a more equitable fee structure. An institution’s tier is based on a number of factors, including collections budget, size, and type of degrees granted and assumed greater use by large PhD institutions than small BA institutions alongside FTE. Using a tiered fee structure based on the characteristics of the institutions ensures that the D2O model is equitable and affordable for all libraries.

The financial threshold for each collection only partially covers the direct costs of publishing the monographs, and the Press will continue to cross-subsidize the monographs from other sources. Because the target does not include any surplus or margin, we cannot offer discounts to individual libraries or consortia, as that would raise the cost for other institutions.

## **PARTICIPATING IN D2O**

### **Overview**

Libraries can choose to support one of the two subject collections or the complete D2O collection, as outlined on the next page. The fee for supporting the complete collection includes a 5% discount. The financial target for each subject collection represents 50%





of the average direct costs for publishing the monographs in the collection. MIT Press subsidizes the remaining 50% of the direct costs, as well as the indirect costs, out of grant funding, print sales, and a portion of the surplus from other types of content.

## 2025 D2O Participation Fees

### United States and Ireland

Institution Type	2025 Participation Fees		
	HSS	STEM	Both*
<b>AA Institutions, US</b>			
< 5,000	\$1,100	\$735	\$1,745
5,000 - 9,999	\$1,410	\$935	\$2,230
> 10,000	\$1,570	\$1,045	\$2,485
<b>BA Institutions, US</b>			
< 1,000	\$1,260	\$835	\$1,990
1,000 - 4,999	\$1,730	\$1,155	\$2,740
> 5,000	\$1,945	\$1,295	\$3,080
<b>MA Institutions, US</b>			
< 1,000	\$1,310	\$875	\$2,075
1,000 - 4,999	\$1,865	\$1,230	\$2,940
5,000 - 9,999	\$2,290	\$1,515	\$3,615
10,000 - 19,999	\$2,585	\$1,720	\$4,090
> 20,000 FTE	\$2,865	\$1,900	\$4,525
<b>PhD Institutions, US</b>			
< 5,000	\$1,945	\$1,295	\$3,080
5,000 - 9,999	\$2,685	\$1,790	\$4,250
10,000 - 19,999	\$3,275	\$2,175	\$5,180
> 20,000 FTE	\$4,230	\$2,805	\$6,685
<b>Other Institutions</b>			
Special Focus Institutions, US	\$1,360	\$905	\$2,150

\*Discount: 5%



## Canada

CRKN Band	2025 Participation Fees		
	HSS	STEM	Both*
1	\$450	\$300	\$715
2	\$635	\$420	\$1,000
3	\$815	\$545	\$1,290
4	\$1,225	\$815	\$1,940
5	\$1,570	\$1,040	\$2,480
6	\$1,865	\$1,260	\$2,975
7	\$2,080	\$1,405	\$3,305
8	\$2,395	\$1,620	\$3,815
9	\$2,710	\$1,835	\$4,315
10	\$3,020	\$2,045	\$4,810
11	\$3,300	\$2,235	\$5,265
12	\$3,590	\$2,385	\$5,675
13	\$4,065	\$2,700	\$6,425

## United Kingdom

Jisc members, please check the Jisc license subscription manager for the current fees for your band: <https://subscriptionsmanager.jisc.ac.uk/catalogue/2805>, deal name: MIT Press Direct to Open Supporter Membership 2022-25.

## Australia and New Zealand

CAUL Band	2025 Participation Fees		
	HSS	STEM	Both*
1	\$525	\$350	\$830
2	\$1,015	\$675	\$1,605
3	\$1,545	\$1,030	\$2,445
4	\$2,585	\$1,720	\$4,090
5	\$4,230	\$2,805	\$6,685





## International Non-Anglophone

International Non-Anglophone <b>High Income</b>	2025 Participation Fees		
	HSS	STEM	Both*
PhD, International Non-Anglophone	\$1,720	\$1,145	\$2,720
Masters Colleges, International Non-Anglophone	\$1,290	\$860	\$2,040
Baccalaureate Colleges, International Non-Anglophone	\$970	\$645	\$1,530
Associate's Colleges, International Non-Anglophone	\$725	\$485	\$1,145

International Non-Anglophone <b>Upper Middle Income</b>	2025 Participation Fees		
	HSS	STEM	Both*
PhD, International Non-Anglophone	\$1,290	\$860	\$2,040
Masters Colleges, International Non-Anglophone	\$970	\$645	\$1,530
Baccalaureate Colleges, International Non-Anglophone	\$725	\$485	\$1,150
Associate's Colleges, International Non-Anglophone	\$545	\$360	\$860

International Non-Anglophone <b>Lower Middle Income</b>	2025 Participation Fees		
	HSS	STEM	Both*
PhD, International Non-Anglophone	\$970	\$645	\$1,530
Masters Colleges, International Non-Anglophone	\$725	\$485	\$1,150
Baccalaureate Colleges, International Non-Anglophone	\$545	\$365	\$860
Associate's Colleges, International Non-Anglophone	\$410	\$270	\$645

International Non-Anglophone <b>Low Income</b>	2025 Participation Fees		
	HSS	STEM	Both*
PhD, International Non-Anglophone	\$730	\$485	\$1,150
Masters Colleges, International Non-Anglophone	\$545	\$365	\$860
Baccalaureate Colleges, International Non-Anglophone	\$410	\$270	\$645
Associate's Colleges, International Non-Anglophone	\$305	\$205	\$485

\*Discount: 5.0%

Your library can choose to participate for one year or up to three years with no increase in the support fee. Three-year participation will allow greater sustainability for the model and provide more data across time to measure impact of the model, for example, with regard to print purchasing patterns.







## **Timelines**

Your library can commit to supporting D2O any time from now through our 2025 commitment deadline of November 30, 2024. Invoices will be issued in December 2024. We are able to invoice sooner where necessary.

