



MIT Press: Direct to Open

Direct to Open (D2O) is a new, collective action business model, built to support the 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 purchase model to a collaborative, library-supported approach. **D2O** brings libraries and the MIT Press together to open access to knowledge in a new way.

How will it work?

Libraries and consortia worldwide will enable scores of titles each year to become openly accessible in digital form through support that does not rely on book processing charges (BPCs) that are usually paid by authors. Rather than opening access to books on a per title basis, **D2O** will allow the Press to open its complete list of scholarly books published in 2022. The model will fund collections totaling around 90 books per year.

Participating libraries who support **D2O** will also receive the benefit of access to the corresponding backfile of over 2,000 scholarly titles on the MIT Press Direct platform spanning the publishing history of the Press since its founding in 1962. We are asking libraries and consortia to commit to supporting the model between now and **September 2021**.

What will be made available and how?

Monographs and edited scholarly works published in 2022 will be eligible for **D2O** when the model reaches the financial target. In order to ensure that we accommodate researcher needs and library budgets, we are offering 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 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 we do not reach the threshold for either collection, we will not make any content open, but libraries who have made a commitment to support **D2O will still receive term access to the backfile for 2022 without the need for payment**.



Books will be open upon publication on the [Direct](#) platform. A title list will be made available on the [Direct to Open](#) site. We work with the major discovery services to ensure our resources are visible including providing MARC and KBART to OCLC, EBSCO EDS, and ProQuest/Ex Libris Alma. We also make records available on [our platform for download](#). We will also have an exclusions list to make clear what is not eligible for D2O. Books will be published under a [CC BY-NC-ND](#) license, with case-by-case consideration for authors that request a different license.

What will it cost and why?

D2O moves beyond conventional FTE-based classifications to provide institutions with a more nuanced fee structure. An institution's tier is based on a number of factors, including collections budget and number and type of degrees granted, alongside FTE. We have gathered data on where we currently realize revenue for monographs to set a financial threshold we will need to reach to make books open. The collective approach means that the D2O model is equitable and affordably priced for all libraries. The threshold only covers partial direct costs for monographs, which means we will not be offering discounts to individual libraries or consortia. This approach also relieves authors of the cost burden they would incur under a BPC model; they will no longer need to directly fund their books to make them open access.

For further information, please contact Emily Farrell, Library Partnerships & Sales Lead,
efarre@mit.edu

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