



Policy Title

Research Publication Fees for Biomedical Sciences Department

Identifier

USCSOMG – RSCH – 2.03

Prepared by: Office for Research	
Reviewed by: BMS Faculty	Review Date: 01/27/2025
Approved by: USCSOMG Policy Committee	Approval Date: 02/17/2025
	Effective Date: 02/17/2025

LCME Standards

4.2- Scholarly Productivity

Scope

University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine Greenville biomedical sciences full-time employed, benefits-eligible faculty.

Policy Statement

Ultimately, decisions regarding funding of fees associated with publication of scholarship are at the discretion of the Biomedical Sciences (BMS) Chair in coordination with the USC School of Medicine Greenville Office for Research to determine if publication of the work advances the mission of USC School of Medicine Greenville and its commitment to students, on a case-by-case basis. The following policy outlines this process.

Reason for Policy

Since resources are not unlimited, it is of paramount importance to ensure prudent investment in faculty and student research endeavors. Prudent investment will not only result in financial solvency but also growth of USC School of Medicine Greenville research, increased opportunities for students and increased external visibility for faculty and students.

Procedures

When the faculty member has applicable external funding, publication fees will be paid for out of those funds. The faculty member requesting funding of publication fees should be the principal investigator/corresponding author, regardless of the listed order of authorship of the publication itself. To allow for equitable distribution of resources, the BMS Chair in coordination with the Office for Research may limit the amount of funding available to each faculty member.

To ensure funding is available, formal requests for publication fees should be made prior to submission of the manuscript.

To apply for funding for article processing charges (APCs) associated with publication, all the following criteria

must be met:

1. Every effort should be made to reduce publication fees through use of University of South Carolina open access consortium agreements (<https://guides.library.sc.edu/openaccessresources/publishingoa>), application for reduced article publication costs via the publisher, or selection of a free option for publication with the publishing company (example: subscription-based publication).
2. The publication contains student author(s), who is/are currently enrolled or were enrolled when work on the project was performed.
3. The journal is listed in PubMed, PubMed Central, Embase, or SCOPUS, or is a societal journal of a reputable academic society whose work is in line with the academic and research mission of the school as determined by the BMS Chair, and one member of the authorship team is a member of the society.
4. The journal's publisher must not engage in predatory publication practices. Reputable open access journals are listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals: <https://doaj.org>.

The faculty member seeking funding needs to provide to the BMS Chair with documentation that the funding request meets the stated requirements, and that the choice of publication venue is an appropriate one in light of the faculty member's discipline and the potential effect on the reputation of the faculty member, student, and the institution. If these requirements are not met, justification must be provided, and these instances will be evaluated by the BMS Chair on a case-by-case basis dependent on available funds.

Sanctions

N/A

Contacts

Biomedical Science Chair
Director for Research Strategy and Operations

Related Information

N/A

History

Date of Change	Change
February 2025	Minor edits include adding a link to USC consortium and updates for branding. Revised to strengthen the language; provide clarity.
Oct 2021	Moved to policy template due to LCME CQI. Updated list of criteria that must be met to apply for funding.