Office of Continuing Professional Development
March 2026

FREE
Faculty Resources for Educational Excellence

Upcoming Events

Download our **3-months-at-a-glance calendar**.

Virginia Tech's Open Access (OA) policy is designed to make VT scholarship easier for the public to read and use, and reflects the university libraries' broader commitment to sharing research and educational resources as openly as possible.

The policy rationale is straightforward: many articles published by the VT community are still inaccessible to alumni, policymakers, and the public, even though much of our research is publicly funded. Under the policy framework, authors grant VT a non-exclusive license to share accepted manuscripts. In practice, the policy applies to all VT faculty, staff, and students and generally uses the accepted manuscript (or an openly licensed final version) that can be deposited via VTechWorks through Elements (faculty/graduate students) or by email (staff/undergraduates). Additional library tools and guides are available to help authors publish, comply, and find open versions of articles.

VIRGINIA TECH'S OPEN ACCESS POLICY

VTC | Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine

POLICY RATIONALE

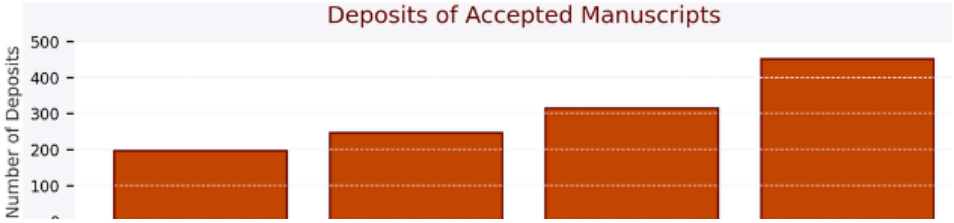
- Many VT articles remain inaccessible to the public, including alumni and policymakers
- Much of our research is publicly funded
- Open access provides an ~18% citation advantage and broadens impact

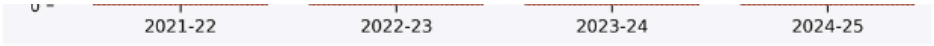
POLICY FRAMEWORK

- Part of Policy 13000 (approved Mar 22, 2021)
- Authors grant VT a non-exclusive license to share accepted manuscripts
- Deposit the unformatted post-peer-review manuscript within 1 month of publication
- Authors may waive or delay access; the university cannot sell the work

USING THE POLICY

- Who: All VT faculty, staff & students
- What: Accepted version or openly licensed final version
- When: From acceptance to one month after publication (no embargo)
- Where & How: VTechWorks via Elements (faculty/grad students) or email (staff/undergraduate)





ADDITIONAL NOTES & RANKINGS

- Expands author rights; not retroactive
- Provides an alternative when OA journals are scarce or costly
- VT ~55% OA (2018-2021): ranked 21/26 among SCHEV peers
- 3rd in Virginia; ranked #639 globally

RESOURCES & CONTACTS:

- Open Access Policy guide: guides.lib.vt.edu/oapolicy
- Repository: vtechworks.lib.vt.edu | vtechworks@vt.edu
- Find open versions: Google Scholar, Unpaywall & Open Access Web Helper
- Data repository & discounts: data.lib.vt.edu | guides.lib.vt.edu/oa/discounts

Resources:

Open Access Policy Guide | **Repository**

Data Repository | **Discounts**

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Office of Continuing Professional Development

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