

## Open Science Policy of Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg (adopted by the University Board on 31 March 2026)

Julius-Maximilians-Universität (JMU) Würzburg believes that its central mission is to generate new findings in all fields of research and to share these with the research community, students and the general public. It is an advocate for making the outputs of publicly-funded research accessible worldwide without any restrictions to allow other researchers and society to benefit from them.

JMU Würzburg therefore supports the principles of open science. Practising open science means opening up the entire academic research, communication, teaching and learning process to increase exchange, transparency, reusability and reproducibility. This includes the responsible use of research data as well as permanent and open access to academic publications and knowledge.

JMU Würzburg adopts the following policy<sup>1</sup>:

Research outputs, the documentation of research processes and teaching materials produced at JMU Würzburg should be made permanently and openly accessible, thereby maximising their visibility and impact.

### **Open access**

All researchers at JMU Würzburg are asked to publish<sup>2</sup> their outputs open access<sup>3</sup>, provided that the applicable legislation permits doing so. Assistance can be obtained from the JMU Open Access Publication Fund, JMU's institutional OPUS Würzburg repository and the university's open access publisher, Würzburg University Press (WUP), which are being run by the University Library. Using the Diamond Open Access model<sup>4</sup> as well as scholar-led and community-driven publishing<sup>5</sup> are welcomed and recommended.

### **Open data**

The university recommends that all its researchers publish their research data according to the principle of 'as open as possible, as closed as necessary'. When doing so, they should follow the FAIR<sup>6</sup> principles. In addition, the JMU research data management policy<sup>7</sup> will apply here. Assistance can be obtained from JMU's institutional research data repository, WueData, and from JMU Data Journals.

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<sup>1</sup> This policy is based on the JMU [code of good practice in research](#), the [position paper on open science by the German Research Foundation \(DFG\)](#), the [Berlin declaration on open access to knowledge in the sciences and humanities](#), to which the University of Würzburg is a signatory, and the UNESCO recommendations on [open science](#) as well as on [open educational resources \(OER\)](#).

<sup>2</sup> Using the [CC BY](#) Creative Commons licence is recommended.

<sup>3</sup> Appropriate high-quality publishing services are a prerequisite for this.

<sup>4</sup> Diamond Open Access (OA) is a publishing model in which neither readers nor authors are charged any fees.

<sup>5</sup> This also includes scholar-led publishing initiatives.

<sup>6</sup> FAIR stands for findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable. Wilkinson, M., Dumontier, M., Aalbersberg, I. *et al.* The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship. *Sci Data* **3**, 160018 (2016). <https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18>. See also <https://www.go-fair.org/fair-principles/>.

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.uni-wuerzburg.de/fileadmin/rdm/2021/20170320\\_jmuLeitlinienFDM\\_v1.pdf](https://www.uni-wuerzburg.de/fileadmin/rdm/2021/20170320_jmuLeitlinienFDM_v1.pdf)

The English text in this document is intended solely as a convenience to non-German-reading individuals. Any discrepancies or differences that may arise in the translation of the official German version shall not be legally binding.

## Open source

When software is developed at the university, developers must consider the option of releasing it under a free licence, and when software is used in research, researchers must consider the option of using open-source software.

## Open education

The university recommends using open educational resources (OER), creating teaching and learning materials that are accessible at no cost and sharing them on OER platforms.

JMU Würzburg is aware that the importance that is placed on open science varies from discipline to discipline, as do the related standards, and that researchers are free to make their own publishing decisions. In particular, the JMU [code of academic freedom and responsibility](#) will apply here. At the same time, JMU strives to further enhance institution-wide awareness of open science, and to ensure that open science practices are implemented persistently across the whole university, on a long-term basis.

All JMU researchers in leadership roles are explicitly asked to encourage their team members to work in line with the principles of open science and to enable them to do so. An important prerequisite here is using persistent identifiers. All researchers should get an ORCID iD (Open Researcher and Contributor ID)<sup>8</sup> and should ensure that their ORCID records are always up to date<sup>9</sup>. Using a digital object identifier (DOI), the ORCID iD and JMU's institutional identifier (Research Organization Registry, ROR – see policy on the standardised indication of institutional affiliations in academic publications) will ensure that publications are associated unambiguously with their authors and with JMU. This is crucial to ensuring the visibility of the research outputs of JMU Würzburg and to enabling the centralised management of academic publications generated at the university, to which each JMU researcher should contribute<sup>10</sup>.

JMU Würzburg supports all members of the university by providing information and the financial and structural framework necessary to reach this goal. The Würzburg University Library<sup>11</sup> (UBW), the Research Advancement Centre (RAC), the Service Centre Research and Technology Transfer (SFT), the Information Technology Centre (RZ) and the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) provide advisory and support services to researchers on different aspects of open science.

JMU provides guidance on the implementation of this policy and an overview of specific services and contact points.

This policy is being evaluated periodically and updated continuously.

This open science policy was adopted by the University Board on 31 March 2026 following debate in the Extended University Board on 23 March 2026 and in the Senate on 24 March 2026. It supersedes the open access policy adopted by the Extended University Board on 18 April 2011.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://orcid.org>

<sup>9</sup> See [JMU's policy on the standardised indication of institutional affiliations in academic publications](#).

<sup>10</sup> See Art. 7 (2) Bavarian higher education innovation act (*Bayerisches Hochschulinnovationsgesetz*, BayHIG).

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.bibliothek.uni-wuerzburg.de/en/research-publishing/open-science/>

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