

Proposed cost-recovery plan for Dryad

The following cost-recovery proposal for Dryad is based on the framework that emerged from the Dryad Board meeting of July 2011, informed by consultations with sustainability experts and discussions with stakeholders dating back to May 2007.

Intent of cost-recovery

The revenue streams proposed here are for recovery of operating costs (e.g. business management, curation of new deposits, user support, interoperability with new journals, migration and replication of content, hardware software maintenance, costs of outside services, etc.). Research and development of new capabilities will continue to be funded through project grants, and Dryad will continue to seek support from foundations, government funding bodies, and private donors to support its core mission and reduce costs to users.

Payment plans for deposits

Deposits may be paid in one of four ways. The initial, baseline, member-discounted rate per data package (including all the material associated with one published article) will be approximately \$50, pending review of budget projections by the elected Board of Directors. The plans charge at a rate that may differ from the baseline to reflect differences in transaction and business costs. The plans are:

- A. *Journal-based payment*: The organization prepays to cover all data packages associated with that journal or journals that may be received during the time of the contract. The annual fee is half the baseline charge times the average annual number of research articles published in the previous three years. Contracts are undertaken for 3 or 5-year terms.
- B. *Voucher-based payment*: The organization pays in advance at the baseline rate for a fixed number of data packages. There are no bulk discounts.
- C. *Pay-as-you-go*: The organization commits to pay retrospectively for the number of data packages made during the previous period (e.g. quarterly or annually). Deposits would be charged at the baseline rate plus a surcharge reflecting the costs of delayed payment. There are no bulk discounts. Contracts are undertaken for 3 or 5-year terms.
- D. *Author-pays*: An author may pay for an individual deposit from either an integrated or non-integrated journal when that journal does not have a contract for one of the plans above. Deposits are charged at the baseline rate plus a surcharge reflecting the increased transaction cost associated with individual payments. Deposits from non-integrated journals have an additional surcharge reflecting the additional costs of curation that are required.

Large-volume surcharges

Under all four plans, unusually large deposits are assessed a surcharge to cover projected excess storage costs. The current threshold is 10GB per data package.

No set-up costs

No charge shall be levied for setting up standard integration of data submission to Dryad via the manuscript handling system of a journal.

Waivers

Where deposit costs are not otherwise covered, the repository will seek to provide waivers for deposits from authors in low-income countries.

Member discounts

The above rates reflect a 10% discount for deposits associated with Members in good standing.

Eligibility

Organizations eligible for Plans A through C include individual journals, publishers of multiple journals (e.g. learned societies or publishers), and other organizations eligible to be Members. It is not necessary that the organization be a Member to enroll in one of the plans.

Membership dues

Membership in Dryad is defined within the proposed By Laws. Essentially, members elect the Board Of Directors, vote on amendments to the core governance documents, and receive the benefits of participation in membership forums. Annual membership dues of \$1000 help defray the communication and meeting costs associated with a large membership-based organization.

Membership is not required for integration of manuscript and data submission, nor for participation in one of the deposit payment plans described above. Members *do* receive the member discount for deposits, as described above.

Charter members

Charter Members are those that were counted as Interim Partners at the time of the July 2011 Board Meeting. Annual dues are waived for Charter Members for the first three years in which dues are levied.

Annual review of cost recovery plan

The cost-recovery framework, including the detailed charging scheme, will be re-assessed by the Board of Directors on an annual basis.