This document was prepared based on information available as of June 26, 2026.

Research Output Immediate Open Access Mandate

Tokai National Higher Education and Research System
Library Open Science Team



"OA加速化くん"- OA *Kasokuka-kun*
Designed by Oita University Library
to accelerate Open Access.

This presentation is about "Research Output Immediate Open Access Mandate". We will highlight important considerations to keep in mind even before starting your research, as this mandate affects all prospective applicants to the designated competitive research funding programs.

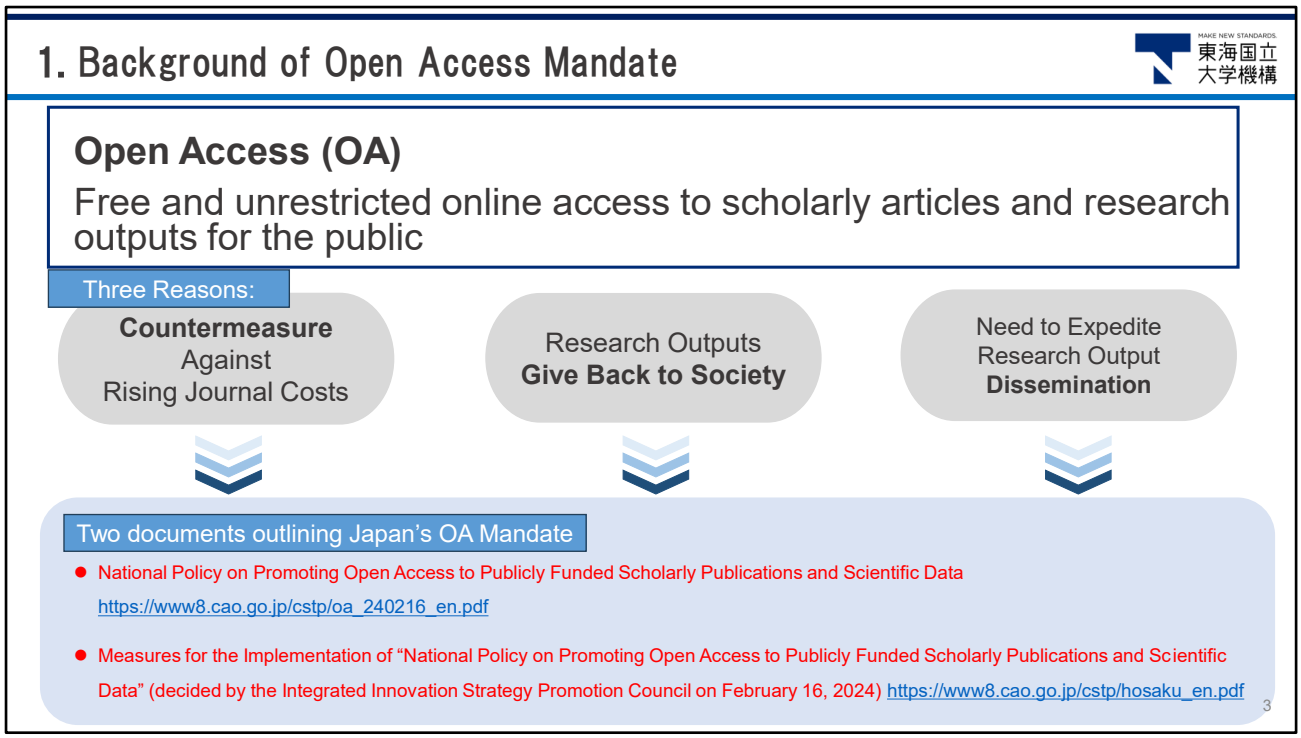
Outline

MAKE NEW STANDARDS.
東海国立
大学機構

1. Background of Open Access Mandate
2. Basic Policy for Immediate Open Access for Scholarly Articles and Research Outputs
3. Open Access Implementation
4. Measures to Take when Immediate Open Access is not Possible

2

Here is the outline of this presentation.



Open Access (OA) refers to the free and unrestricted availability of scholarly articles and research outputs to everyone.

OA has gained momentum since around the year 2000, largely driven by countermeasure against the rising costs of scholarly journals—often referred to as the "serials crisis"—and the growing demand for publicly funded research to benefit society. In recent years, countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, and several European nations have mandated OA for publicly funded research outputs. Japan has also begun implementing an OA mandate as part of its national policy, aiming to accelerate the dissemination of research findings.

The framework for Japan's OA mandate is outlined in two key documents:

- The first is the *"National Policy on Promoting Open Access to Publicly Funded Scholarly Publications and Scientific Data"*, announced in February 2024.
- The second is the *"Measures for the Implementation of the 'National Policy on Promoting Open Access to Publicly Funded Scholarly Publications and Scientific Data"*, released in February 2024 and revised in October of the same year.

For simplicity, we refer to these documents as the "Basic Policy" and the "Measures for Implementation."
We will now explain the key points: what researchers are required to do under the Basic Policy and the Measures for Implementation.

2. Basic Policy for Immediate Open Access for Scholarly Articles and Research Outputs

MAKE NEW STANDARDS. 東海国立大学機構

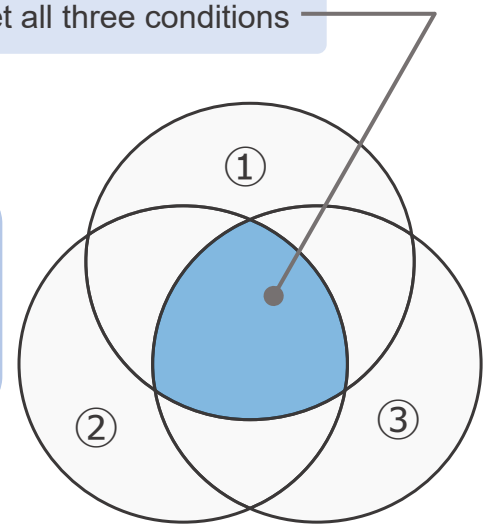
Scope of Mandatory Immediate OA: Must meet all three conditions

①Competitive research grants:
newly funded from FY2025

Applicable Competitive Research Funding Programs
- JSPS Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (“KAKENHI”)
- JST Strategic Basic Research Programs (excluding certain programs)
- AMED Strategic Basic Research Programs
- JST Fusion Oriented Research for Disruptive Science and Technology (FOREST)

②Peer-reviewed

③Electronic journal publication



4

Let’s begin by looking at the types of research output subject to the Immediate OA Mandate.

First, the research must be funded by the government competitive grants awarded from fiscal year 2025 onward. Four government grants have been designated.
Second, the publication must be peer-reviewed.
Third, the article must be published in an electronic journal — that is, the digital version of a scholarly journal.

Scholarly articles and their supporting data that meet all three of these criteria will be subject to the Immediate OA Mandate.
In some research fields, it may even be uncommon to find outputs that do not fall under this category.

What is Immediate OA Mandate?

・Under this mandate, **scholarly articles** and **supporting data**[1] are made openly accessible **immediately**[2] **by the authors themselves** in information infrastructures such as institutional repositories.

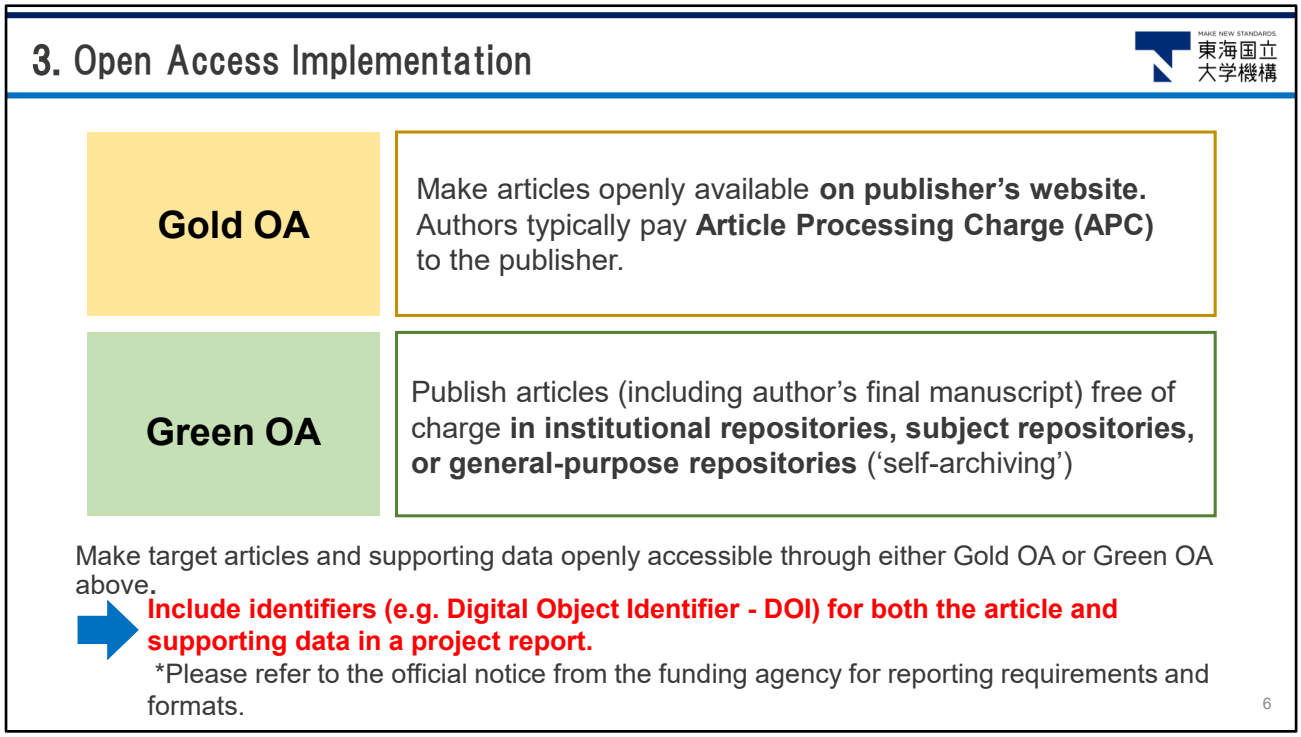
1) “Supporting data” refers to research data that **is required to be made public**—such as Supplemental Data—under the author guidelines or publication policies of electronic journals to ensure transparency and reproducibility. **Disclosure of all data is not always required.**
2) “Immediately” means **within three months of publication**.
There are no strict regulations, but this timeframe is indicated in the “Measures for the Implementation of ‘National Policy on Promoting Open Access to Publicly Funded Scholarly Publications and Scientific Data’” (https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/hosaku_en.pdf)

5

Authors/researchers themselves are responsible for making scholarly articles and supporting data subject to the Immediate OA Mandate openly accessible immediately after journal publication, typically by depositing them in information infrastructures such as institutional repositories.

“Supporting data” refers to research data—such as supplemental data—that are required to be made publicly available under the author guidelines or publication policies of electronic journals, in order to ensure transparency and reproducibility. Please note that this does not mean that all data related to the research must be disclosed.

As for the definition of “immediately,” the time required to prepare and deposit articles and supporting data in institutional repositories may vary depending on the institution’s procedure. Currently, there are no strict universal rules governing this preparation period. However, the government’s “Measures for Implementation” indicates that it is desirable to deposit articles in a repository within three months of their publication in a scholarly journal.



The methods of making articles openly accessible on information infrastructure such as institutional repositories are broadly divided into two types: “Gold OA” and “Green OA.”

- Gold OA refers to making articles freely available to the public, typically on the publisher’s website.
- Green OA refers to making articles freely available in institutional repositories or subject-specific/general-purpose repositories. In this case, the “article” may include the Author’s Final Manuscript, which remains with the author after acceptance by the journal.

After selecting one of these methods and making the article openly accessible, please make sure to include identifiers—such as DOIs—for both the article and its supporting data in your project report.

Please refer to the official notice from the funding agency for reporting requirements and formats.

3. Open Access Implementation：Gold OA

Gold OA Publication

- Under “Gold OA,” articles become openly accessible upon journal publication.
- Payment of **APC (Article Processing Charge)** is required
  - Budget allocation is necessary as APC must be paid from research funds



Support is available to reduce APC, such as “Read & Publish” agreements and assistance for publishing in high-impact journals!

※Support programs and details vary by institutions.

- For Gifu University members: https://www.lib.gifu-u.ac.jp/academic/apc.html
- For Nagoya University members: https://www.nul.nagoya-u.ac.jp/oap/apc_e.html

7

Let us explain each method in more detail.

The main advantage of Gold OA is that once an article is published, it becomes freely and immediately accessible to anyone. However, publishing through “Gold OA” often requires payment of an Article Processing Charge (APC), which can be quite expensive. Since APCs must be paid from research funds, researchers should plan their budgets accordingly in advance.

The Tokai National Higher Education and Research System offers support programs to help reduce the financial burden of APCs. These include “Read & Publish” agreements, in which institutions subscribe to electronic journals that include a set number of OA publication slots—eliminating the need for authors to pay APCs individually—as well as support for publishing in high-impact journals.

Support programs and eligibility vary by institution, so please refer to your institution’s dedicated website for details.

3. Open Access Implementation：Green OA

Green OA - Self-Archiving

- **No fees are required from the** author.
- How to register in the Institutional Repository

Please make full use of your institutional repository!



➢ **Gifu University Institutional Repository**
TOP: https://gifu-u.repo.nii.ac.jp/lang/en
Details: https://www.lib.gifu-u.ac.jp/academic/repozasshi.html

➢ **Nagoya Repository**
TOP: https://nagoya.repo.nii.ac.jp/lang/en
Details: https://www.nul.nagoya-u.ac.jp/oap/sokuji_e.html

- Most cases involve **publication of the author's final manuscript and an embargo period.**

8

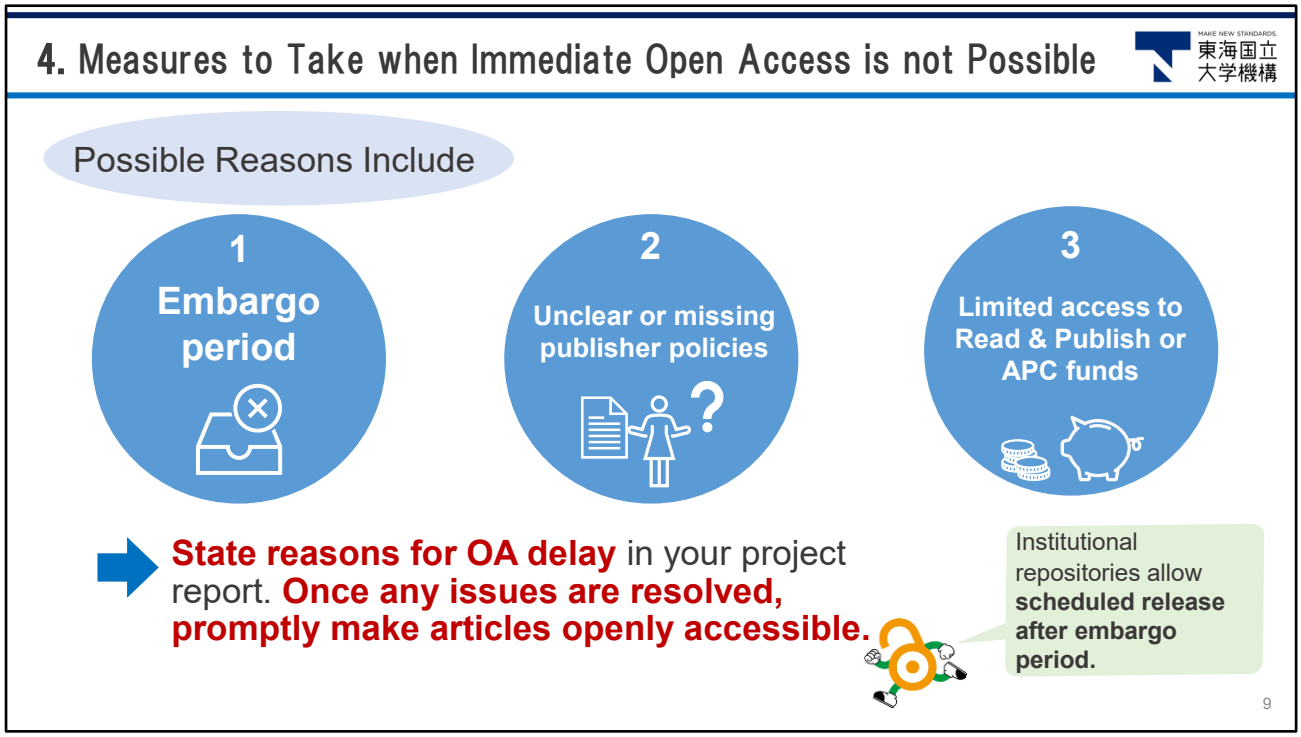
Next is Green OA.

Green OA is generally free of charge and does not require budget allocation from research funds. Institutional repositories are maintained by Gifu University and Nagoya University, respectively. We encourage you to visit your university's institutional repository website and consider using it.

To avoid any issues when submitting your project report, we also recommend requesting repository registration promptly after each article is published.

Green OA must be carried out in accordance with the publisher's policy. In most cases, the version that can be made publicly available is the Author's Final Manuscript, and there is often an embargo period—a delay before the manuscript can be made openly accessible.

These requirements are considered in the government's "Measures for Implementation," which we will explain in the next slide.



According to the Measures for Implementation, there are three main reasons why Immediate OA may not be possible:

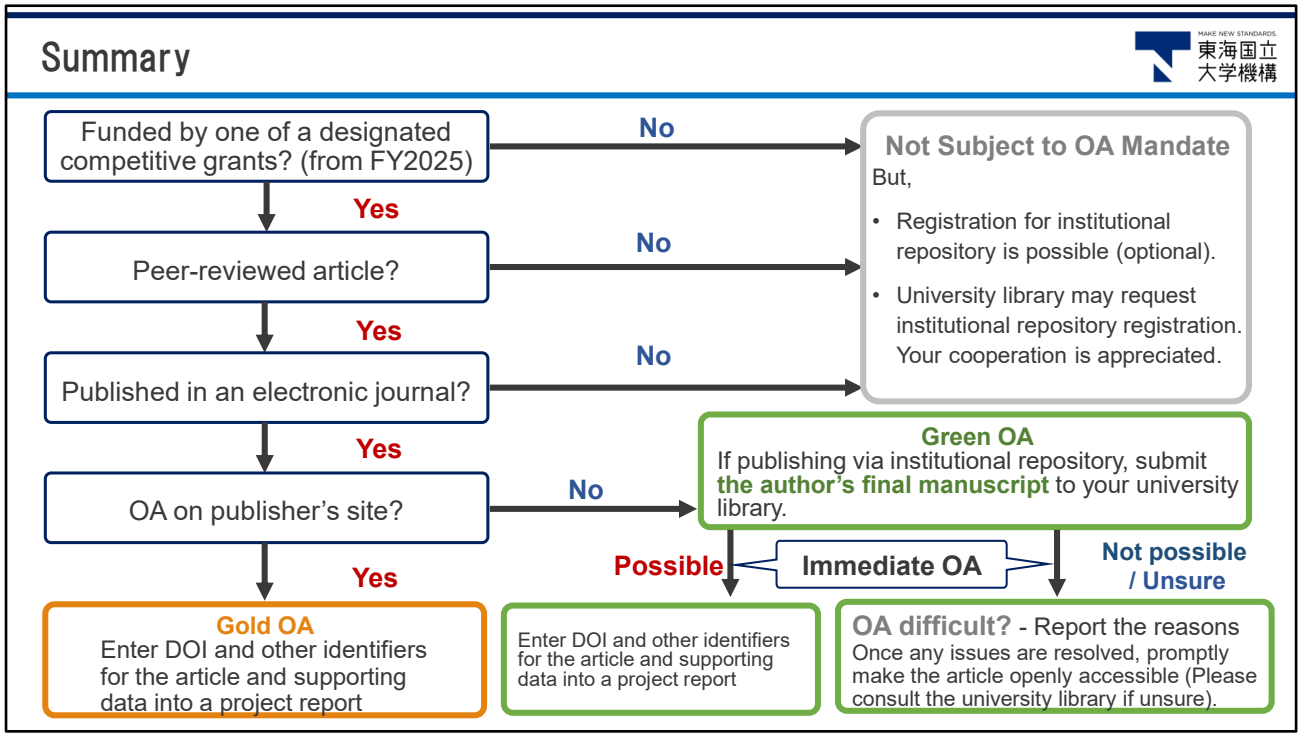
1. An embargo period is required by the publisher or journal
2. The publisher's or journal's OA policies are unclear or unavailable
3. The researcher finds it difficult to make use of a "Read & Publish" agreement or to pay the APC without straining research funds

These reasons will be selectable in the new project report format.
If any of them apply, please select the most appropriate reason and include it in your report.
Once the issue is resolved, you must promptly make the article openly accessible.

Even if you believe that immediate OA cannot be achieved:

1. You can pre-register the Author's Final Manuscript in your institutional repository and schedule its release after the embargo period ends.
2. If the publisher's or journal's OA policies are unclear or unavailable, feel free to contact your university library for assistance.
3. Repository registration is free of charge and does not impose any financial burden.

Even if you initially report that Immediate OA is not possible, institutional repositories and university libraries are here to support you in fulfilling the OA mandate.



To summarize, this "Yes or No Flow Chart" outlines the key points we've discussed so far.

Your approach to the Immediate OA Mandate may vary depending on the progress of your research project.

However, for research funded by designated competitive research funding programs newly awarded from FY2025 onward, please keep the following points in mind:

- If the article and its supporting data are published in a peer-reviewed electronic journal, they must be made immediately and openly accessible—either through Gold OA or Green OA.
- Additionally, DOIs or other identifiers must be included in your project report.
- If Immediate OA is not possible due to specific circumstances, you are required to report the reason in your project report.

For More Information

MAKE NEW STANDARDS. 東海国立大学機構

Gifu University

Institutional Repository

Academic Affairs & Information Division (Institutional Repository)
Gifu University Library

reposit@t.gifu-u.ac.jp

https://gifu-u.repo.nii.ac.jp/lang/en

OA Publication Support

Academic Affairs & Information Division (Open Access)
Gifu University Library

lib-jokik@t.gifu-u.ac.jp

https://www.lib.gifu-u.ac.jp/academic/apc.html

Immediate OA Mandate Information
https://www.lib.gifu-u.ac.jp/academic/oa-mandate.html

Nagoya University

Institutional Repository

Information Control Division, Electronic Resources Section (Open Science)
Nagoya University Library

lib-os@t.mail.nagoya-u.ac.jp

https://nagoya.repo.nii.ac.jp/lang/en

OA Publication Support

Information Control Division, Electronic Resources Section (Journals)
Nagoya University Library

lib-ers@t.mail.nagoya-u.ac.jp

https://www.nul.nagoya-u.ac.jp/oap/apc_e.html

※ High-impact journal support (NU member only): ken-ken@t.mail.nagoya-u.ac.jp

Immediate OA Mandate Information
https://www.nul.nagoya-u.ac.jp/oap/sokuji_e.html

11

That is all for the explanation on the Immediate OA Mandate.
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the relevant departments/divisions/sections at your university.