



# Pain Free with SciFree: Connecting Authors to OA Journals

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# Agenda

Background

What is SciFree?

Behind the Scenes

Search Statistics

Pros & Areas for Improvement

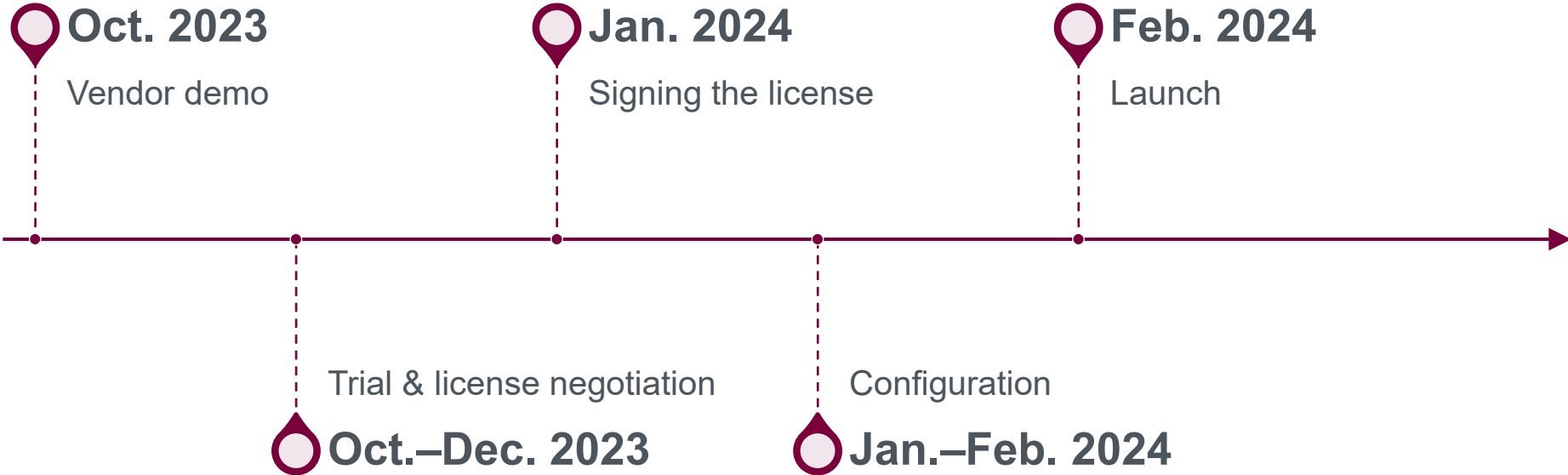
Testimonials from our research community

Future Considerations

# Background

- McMaster Libraries participate in a variety of OA publishing agreements, including Read & Publish, as well as tailored OA licenses.
- The Libraries' support manifests in waiving or discounting Article Processing Charges (APCs).
- Strategic promotional efforts focus on dissemination of high-level information.
- McMaster authors face challenges in navigating nuanced license terms and identifying eligible journals.

# Timeline



# What is SciFree?



A central searchable platform that allows researchers to find journals where they can publish open access with article processing charges (APC) waived or reduced.





Information displayed:

- Journal title and imprint
- Payment options
- Licence types
- Publishing model

Welcome to the Open Access Publishing Journal Search Tool to find APC waivers and discounts to publish open access in ALL disciplines with support from McMaster Libraries.

## Search by journal, subject, or ISSN.

- To qualify for support the **Corresponding Author** must be affiliated with McMaster University. Use your **@mcmaster.ca** email.
- If prompted, select either the **CRKN** or **OCUL** Consortium to receive APC (Article Processing Charges) discounts.
- **Who Pays?** APCs are partially (e.g. 10%) or fully covered by the Library.
- A complete list of journals supported can be downloaded [here](#) and accessed with MacID.
- Share your **feedback** with us on this new tool! Or contact us at [scom@mcmaster.ca](mailto:scom@mcmaster.ca) if you have questions.

[Sherpa Services - Open Access Tool](#)

Journals

Imprint

Who pays

License Option

Publishing Model

<https://search.scifree.se/mcmaster>

**Energy Conversion and Management: X**

Elsevier



**Sustainable Energy Technologies and Assessments**

Elsevier



**Energy & Fuels**

American Chemical Society



**Energy Exploration & Exploitation**

Sage



**Oxford Open Energy**

Oxford



# Search Widget Embedded in Webpage

<https://library.mcmaster.ca/research/open-access#tab-library-support-open-access>

## McMaster University Libraries Investment in Open Access

### APC Waivers: Publish your Article Open Access

McMaster University researchers are entitled to waivers or discounts on Article Processing Charges (APCs) in the following journals or journal packages as a result of memberships negotiated and paid for by the Library. Corresponding authors are asked to submit articles using their @mcmaster.ca email address to receive the discounts. Many of the agreements come through our national consortium, CRKN. More details about the [CRKN agreements](#) are available directly from CRKN's site.

Search by Journal for APC Waivers and Discounts across all Publisher Agreements:

Search



# Behind the Scenes

## SciFree

[Help Center](#)[Community](#)[Logout](#)

### Publisher Agreements

Create or edit your agreements for your public search

You have 22 active agreements with a total of 8750 journals in your public search.

[Add an Agreement](#)[Repository Link](#)


Publisher	Agreement Title	Start Date	End Date	Status	Journals
American Chemical Society (ACS)	ACS All \$250 USD Off	2022-01-01	2024-12-31	Active	86
Cambridge University Press	CUP Hybrid/Gold 100%	2022-01-01	2024-12-31	Active	411
Canadian Science Publishing	CSP GOLD 100%	2023-01-01	2025-12-31	Active	5

[Help](#)


# Behind the Scenes

## Edit agreement


Highlighted fields marked with an asterisk (\*) are required.

Publisher \* 

Cambridge University Press


Agreement Name \* 

CUP Hybrid/Gold 100%

Payment option \* 

Included in Publisher Agreement



Agreement URL \* 

https://library.mcmaster.ca/research/open-access#tab-library-support-open-access

Start Date \*

2022-01-01



End Date \*


2024-12-31



Licenses 

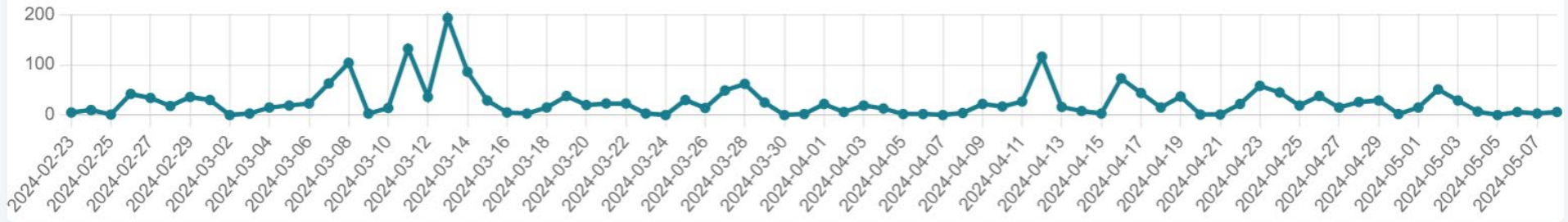
CC BY

Journals (.xlsx) \*

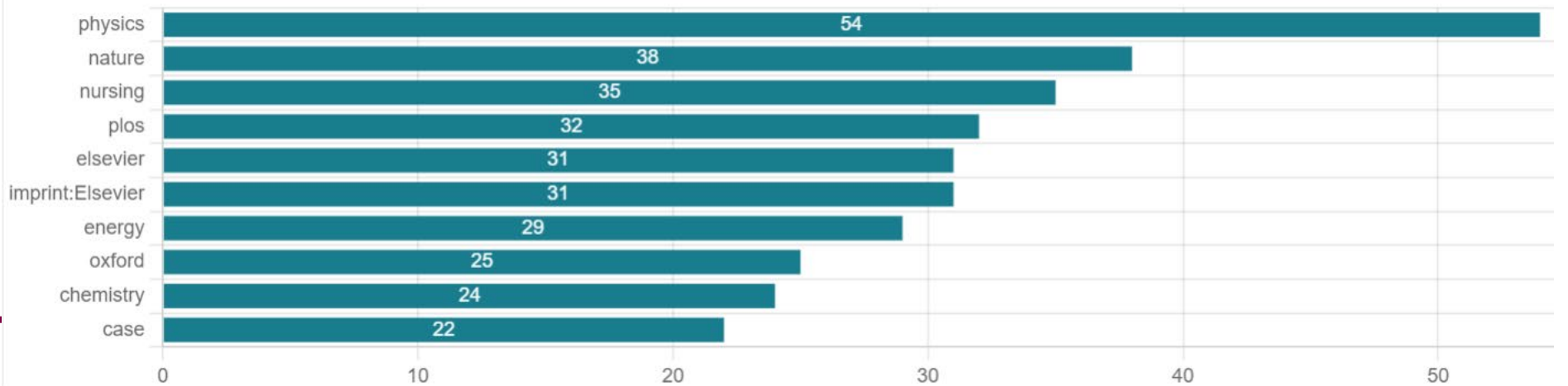
Choose file to upload 

# Search Statistics

Total: 2027



## Top 10 searches



# Pros & Areas for Improvement

## Pros:

- Streamlined Interface
- Customizable branding
- Efficient management system
- Exceptional customer support
- Highly adaptive service

## Areas that could be improved:

- Results limited to first 1000 hits
- Export complete list on the public interface
- Localized data
- Sort options/filters
- Proxied Access
- Search Widget not fully functional

# What are our people saying about SciFree?



"This is indeed amazing" - *Faculty Member, Researcher, Gastroenterologist*



"It serves an important purpose for us authors to understand which journals get supported!" - *Graduate Student, Researcher, Pediatrician*



"This is great news and much appreciated!" - *Research Manager*



"Fantastic tool that will be incredibly helpful to our research community." - *Research Services Specialist*



"This tool is looking great!" - *Adjunct Research Professor, Epidemiologist*

# Future Considerations



Standardized metadata from the publishers and license agreements



Promotion and update



Consortia license?



# THANK YOU!

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