

ARTICLE PROCESSING CHARGE (APC)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Who is responsible for making or arranging the payment?

The corresponding author of the manuscript is responsible for making or arranging the payment upon acceptance of the manuscript.

2. At which stage is the amount needed to pay fixed?

The APC payable for an article is agreed as part of the manuscript submission process. The agreed charge will not change, regardless of any change to the journal's APC.

3. How much is the APC?

The following key updates on Article Processing Charge (APC), effective **1 June 2026**:

- **New APC Rates (for submissions from 1 June 2026):**
 - Malaysia-based corresponding author: **MYR1,200**
 - International corresponding author: **USD300**
 - Discount for corresponding authors from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)
 - **Discounted rate: MYR850**
- **Earlier Submissions (before 1 June 2026):**
 - Malaysia-based corresponding author: **MYR500**
 - International corresponding author: **USD150**

Item	Before 1 June 2026	From 1 June 2026 onwards
Manuscript ID Journal abbrev.-article type- year-month-submission no.	05-26 e.g.: JCDC-OA-05-26-0123 05/2026 e.g.: IJAPS/OA/05/2026-0230	06-26 onwards e.g.: JCDC-OA-06-26-0123 06/2026 onwards e.g.: IJAPS/OA/06/2026-0230
APC Rate	MYR500/USD150	MYR1,200/USD300
APC Discount	Not applicable	Discounted rate: MYR850 (Applicable to Corresponding Author from USM)

Authors are strongly encouraged to review the journal's policy page for comprehensive information on APCs, discount eligibility, and submission requirement.

4. Are taxes included in the APC?

No. Any taxes or bank charges are to be defrayed by authors.

5. When to make payment?

The APC is billed on acceptance of the article for publication. The decision whether to accept a paper for publication will rest solely with the Editor-in-Chief, and without reference to the funding situation of the authors. The Editor-in-Chief and reviewers have no involvement with the billing of APCs and cannot grant waivers.

Following acceptance, the article will proceed through the production cycle but will not be published online until payment has been received.

6. How to make payment?

We advise prompt payment as we are unable to publish accepted articles until payment has been received. Payment is only through the University's payment gateway (USM e-payment). Click on the link provided in the manuscript acceptance email to access the payment form for "Journal Publication" services. Key in the manuscript ID in the "Reference" section and fill up the rest of the form.

Payment can be made by the following methods:

- i. credit card
- ii. interbank online transfer

[APC payment guidelines](#)

7. What currency will the APC be charged in?

The charge will be based on the affiliation of the corresponding author as follows:

- i. MYR: Malaysia
- ii. USD: All other countries

8. Can the APC be split with another author?

The APC cannot be split into two different payments. Author MUST key-in the APC amount correctly to avoid any errors.

9. Can someone other than the corresponding author pay the APC?

The APC is charged based on the affiliation of the corresponding author. Therefore, the APC must be paid by the corresponding author on behalf of the co-authors.

10. How to know if payment is received and the article will proceed to production?

The Journal Administrator will contact the corresponding author with an acknowledgement e-mail once notification of successful transaction is received from the bank.

11. How to get a payment receipt?

Download the proof of payment as PDF from the payment portal. Email this document to the Journal Administrator.

12. Are there any waivers or discounts offered?

There is no waiver on the APC for accepted papers. Corresponding authors affiliated with USM are eligible to publish at a **discounted APC rate of MYR850**, according to the respective journal. Authors are strongly encouraged to review the journal's policy page for comprehensive information on discount eligibility.

13. What is the APC refund policy?

The corresponding author assumes the responsibility for the APC payment. Penerbit USM will refund an APC if an error on our part has resulted in a failure to publish the accepted manuscript. APCs will not be refunded when articles are withdrawn by the author(s) or retracted as a result of author error or misconduct. For detailed information on refund policy, please refer to the journal's website.

14. What do the APCs pay for?

The APCs contribute to costs associated with the effective running of the journal, including, but not limited to, the following:

- i. Professional preparation of the electronic format of the article, including copyediting
- ii. Typesetting, metadata files, and reference linking
- iii. Immediate, permanent, barrier-free, worldwide access to the full text version of the article
- iv. Online hosting
- v. Inclusion of articles in relevant abstracting and indexing services