

FAQs

Why can't we access journals from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's libraries? Could we partner with them to purchase electronic resources?

Site licensing restrictions prevent non-affiliated individuals from remotely accessing another library's electronic resources. Due to the structure of the University system, with UNMC as a distinct campus entity, we are unable to participate in journal purchasing agreements with the CIC (Committee on Institutional Cooperation), the academic counterpart of the Big 10. Although we may be limited in participating in some large offers, we are exploring joint purchasing with the other University of Nebraska libraries.

The library has acquired some new collections recently. Where did the funds come from for those acquisitions?

Over the past few years the library has relied heavily on endowments and library student fees for any new collections. This model for purchasing new content is not sustainable.

Why do we access some journals directly from the publisher's site where content is available right away, while other journals are only available through a 3rd party interface?

The library subscribes to some databases that aggregate full-text journal content. Some of the journals have an embargo on the content (e.g. 1 month – 2 years) while other journals allow their current content to be available immediately. Unfortunately there is sometimes a delay for these current journals because the aggregator has to wait for the publisher to supply the content. Additionally, over time the aggregator may add and remove journal content from their database. Relying on aggregator databases for current journal content may not be ideal in all cases, but it is a cost-effective way to offer a large amount of journal content.

Why do we have access to journals that aren't relevant to UNMC? Can't we cancel those titles and use the money to subscribe to relevant journals?

Some databases that the library subscribes to contain full-text journals. We also subscribe to journal packages/bundles where there may be some journals that are slightly out of scope. In both of these situations, we aren't able to pick and choose which journals we get. When we elect to subscribe to full-text databases and journal packages/bundles we review the title list very carefully and weigh whether or not the number of relevant journals is worth the cost of the subscription.

If a journal is on the cancellation list, does this mean I no longer have access to the articles?

When we cancel a subscription or a resource that includes full-text journals, you will no longer be able to directly access the articles. However, you can always request journal articles through [McGoogan Docs](#), our interlibrary loan and document delivery service. In some cases, it is more economical for us to request articles rather than paying for a subscription with high inflation rates.

Sometimes I can find journal articles without going through the library's subscriptions. Why can't the library direct people to these free articles and cancel the journal subscriptions?

There are a lot of open access journals that allow people to freely access all of their content as soon as it's published. For these type of journals, the library does not have a subscription. Some journals are hybrid journals where a few select articles are freely available, but the rest are only accessible via a subscription. All NIH funded research, as well as many other federally-funded grants require authors to make their articles freely available, typically after an embargo period. The embargo period may be up to a year so in order to access current articles, the library would need to keep a subscription.