

## Article Processing Charges (APCs) for *Science Advances* – How Max-Planck-Gesellschaft Authors Can Apply an Affiliation Discount

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### Introduction

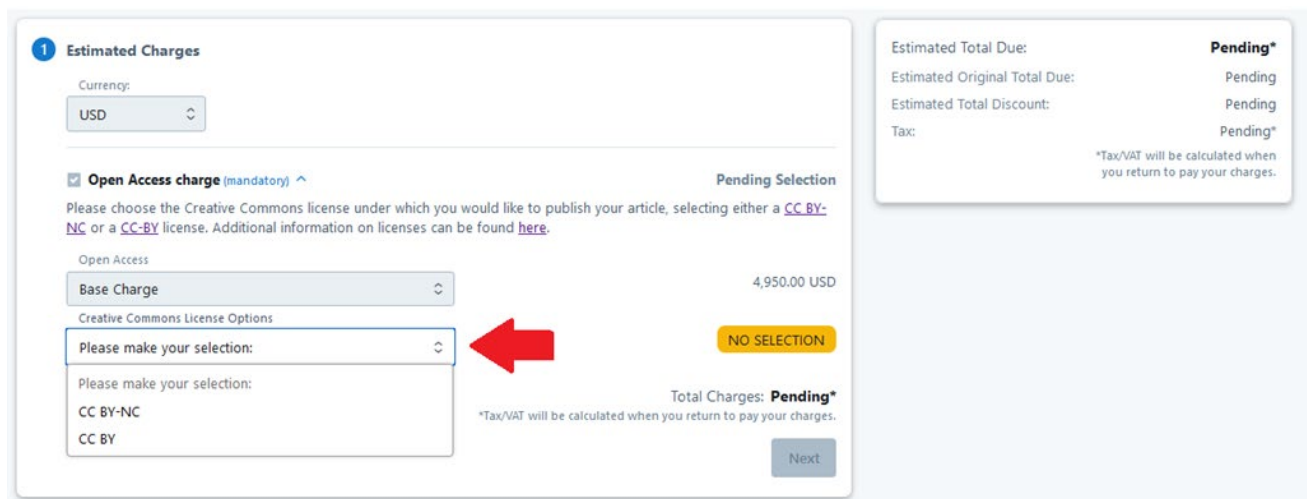
This document provides an overview for authors on how to apply an affiliation discount for *Science Advances*, the gold open access journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Please note that *Science Advances* only offers affiliation discounts on APCs to authors affiliated with select institutions. (For more information about *Science Advances*, see: [https://advances.sciencemag.org/.](https://advances.sciencemag.org/))

### How To Apply An Affiliation Discount

1. **Locate the notification email.** Once a paper is accepted for publication, the corresponding author(s) will receive an email notifying them that their APC payment is due. This email will contain a link to the author charge page on RightsLink, the payment vendor's e-commerce platform.

### Select a License

2. Select a License and click the “Next” button. Authors must select a publication license for their manuscript. *Science Advances* offers both [CC BY-NC](#) and [CC BY](#) licenses. Authors should check with their funding body to see if they are required to publish under a CC BY license.



**1 Estimated Charges**

Currency: USD

**Open Access charge (mandatory)** Pending Selection

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Open Access

Base Charge 4,950.00 USD

Creative Commons License Options

Please make your selection: **NO SELECTION**

Please make your selection:

CC BY-NC

CC BY

Total Charges: **Pending\***

\*Tax/VAT will be calculated when you return to pay your charges.

Next

Estimated Total Due: **Pending\***

Estimated Original Total Due: Pending

Estimated Total Discount: Pending

Tax: Pending\*

\*Tax/VAT will be calculated when you return to pay your charges.

3. **Select Institution.** In the Apply Discounts box, search for the appropriate institution name in search box under “Check if your institution is eligible for a discount.” which uses the [Ringgold](#) Organization Name. In order for the affiliation discount to correctly apply, the author must select

the institution that has the agreement with AAAS that grants them access to journal content, rather than their particular institute or center. For example, the author would need to select “*Max-Planck-Gesellschaft*” rather than “Fritz-Haber-Institut der Max-Planck-Gesellschaft”.

- Once the author has located the “Max-Planck-Gesellschaft” name, the author should click the blue “Apply” button.

The screenshot shows a form titled "2 Apply Discounts (optional)". It contains several sections for applying discounts:

- APCs waived for authors in the developing world:** A dropdown menu labeled "Select your country" with "No Discount" next to it.
- Not a AAAS member yet?** A text input field for "Enter membership number" with "No Discount" next to it.
- Check if your institution is eligible for a discount:** A dropdown menu with "Max-Planck-Gesellschaft" selected. A tooltip shows "Munich, DE". Below the dropdown is a "Check Promo Code" button and "No Discount" text.

At the bottom right of the form, it says "Total Discount: 0.00 USD" and has "Apply", "Cancel", and "Save" buttons.

To the right of the form is a summary box:

Total Due:	4,500.00 USD*
Original Total Due:	4,500.00 USD
Total Discount:	0.00 USD
Tax:	Pending*

\*Tax/VAT will be calculated on the next page.  
→ Go to Billing Details

- Depending on the author profile in AAAS’s manuscript submission system (CTS), there may already appear an institution in the affiliation discount field. The existing text may simply be deleted and replaced with the correct institution name.
- Apply Discount.** Once “*Max-Planck-Gesellschaft*” has been located in the search box, click the blue “Apply” button.
  - Confirmation of institutional eligibility.** When the discount is successfully applied, the reduction in USD will appear instead of the “No discount” text.

The screenshot shows the same form as above, but with the discount applied:

- Check if your institution is eligible for a discount:** The dropdown menu now shows "Max-Planck-Gesellschaft" and "675.00 USD" next to it.
- Promotion Code Discount:** A text input field for "Enter a promo code" with a "Check Promo Code" button and "No Discount" text.

At the bottom right, it says "Total Discount: 675.00 USD" and has "Apply", "Cancel", and "Save" buttons.

- Proceed to payment.** Following application of the discount, the author can proceed to payment options by clicking on the blue “Next” button. This will present the option to create an account or

sign in to an existing RightsLink account; the payment vendor's e-commerce platform is separate from the manuscript submission system and requires its own set of credentials. The information entered in the RightsLink account will be used to populate the billing statement, including recipient name and location.

8. **Transaction completion.** Once the transaction is completed, the RightsLinks will confirm the completion of the order and payment.
  - a. If a credit card was used for payment, the author will receive separate order confirmation and payment receipt emails.
  - b. If an invoice was requested, the author will receive the invoice via email within 24 hours of request.