

Glossary of (openCost) cost types

(as of October 2025)

(openCost) cost types	Definition	Relevant publication object	Potential terms on the invoice indicating the cost type keyword to be used
gold-oa 	Charges for the Open Access status in a pure Open Access publication organ. Terminologically usually named on an invoice as APC, BPC, etc. depending on the published object.	article	APC, Article Processing Charge/Fee, Article Publishing Charge, Open Access (publication fees), OA (charge/fee), Artikelgebühren in OA-Zeitschriften, ... BPC, CPC, DPC, EPC, FPC, GPC, IPC, RPC, SPC, ...
hybrid-oa 	Charges for the Open Access status in a Closed Access publication organ. Terminologically usually named on an invoice as APC, BPC, etc. depending on the published object.	article	APC, Article Processing Charge/Fee, Article Publishing Charge, Open Access (publication fees), OA (charge/fee), Publikationen in Hybridzeitschriften, ... BPC, CPC, DPC, EPC, FPC, GPC, IPC, RPC, SPC, ...
vat	Value added tax	article, contract	vat, (value added) tax, Mehrwertsteuer, MwSt, ...
colour charge	Charges for colour printing (colour images, pages, illustrations, etc.), relevance for print versions	article	colour charge, colour fee, colour Gebühr, color charge, colour figure, coloured figures, FIG, coloured article figures, color illustrations, color art, color pages, colour page charge, Farbseiten, Farbabbildung, ...
cover charge	Charges for the illustration of a cover (publication of content for cover/cover design)	article	cover charge, cover fee, cover picture, cover image, cover art, supplementary cover art, Umschlaggestaltung, Cover-Abbildung, ...
page charge	Charges for excess length or page-based billing (the latter may then not appear as an additional charge, but functionally replaces a Processing Charge, to be assigned to the gold- or hybrid-oa categories)	article	page charge, page fee, overlength (page) charges, excess (page) charge, Überlänge, Überlängenaufschlag, ...
permission	Charges for the acquisition of a license (right of use, e.g. for an image in order to be able to use it within a publication)	article	licence fee, Bildlizenz, Abdrucklizenz, Tabelle, Grafik, ...

publication charge	Publication charges to be paid in the context of Closed Access	article	closed access related charges: publication charge, publication fee, Base APC Fee ...
reprint	Reproduction charges for copies of publications	article	reprint charges for copies of published paper: reprint charges, ...
submission fee	Charges for submitting a publication	article	submission charge, submission fee, Einreichungsgebühr, Journaleinreichung, ...
payment fee	Charges for the financial transaction of the payment (e.g. bank, transfer or credit card charges)	article	transaction fee, bank transfer, credit card, Bankgebühren, ...
read	Charges for the read access of a Closed Access portfolio within the framework of (e.g. Publish & Read or subscription) contracts	contract	read fee, Zugangsbereitstellung, Leseberechtigungen, ...
publish	Charges for Open Access publishing within the framework of (e.g. Publish & Read) contracts, flat rate to cover all publication services for publishing in publication organs covered by the contract	contract	publish fee, Publikationsdienstleistungen, ...
publish and read	Charges for publishing under 'Publish & Read' or 'Read & Publish' contracts where the publish and read portions are not itemized separately on an invoice	contract	publish and read fee
service fee	Additional charges to cover service and operating costs	contract	service fee, service charge
other 	All other charges that are not already defined elsewhere in the glossary and cannot be assigned to any of the named categories	article	Examples of costs currently classified as <code>other</code> can be found on page 3 of this glossary.



Keep in mind that there is a superordinate object that is to be published and to which the other charges refer. For example, an Open Access charge can then be assigned to this object by term:

APC – **A**rticle Processing Charge

BPC – **B**ook Processing Charge

CPC – **C**hapter Processing Charge

DPC – **D**ata Processing Charge

...

Within the openCost metadata schema, the publication type of the published object can be classified using the [COAR vocabulary](#).



Cost type **other**: Examples

other includes all costs, that are currently not defined elsewhere in the glossary and cannot be assigned to any of the named categories, **for example**:

Examples of costs currently classified as other	Definition	Potential terms on the invoice indicating the cost type keyword to be used
abstract charge	Separate calculation of the abstract (summary/short presentation) of a publication	abstract charge, abstract fee, abstract handling charge, abstract submission charge, abstract management charge, abstract processing charge, ...
archiving charge	Charges for the archiving of a publication	archiving charge, archiving fee, storage, long-term preservation/archiving, ...
editing charge	Charges for editing and scientific proofreading/review	editing charge, editing fee, proofreading charge, document editing, academic editing, copyediting, english editing, Korrektorat, Korrekturservice, Lektorat, (image editing, cover design), ...
infrastructure charge	Cost contribution to the financing of a science-led infrastructure	
licence fee	Charges for the assignment of a license to determine the rights of use by third parties (in addition to the entire publication, if applicable, also to be determined for included images, prints, tables, graphics, etc.)	licence fee, licence charge, ...
print charge	Charges for the printing of a publication	print charge, print fee, printing charges, printing and binding, Druckkosten, Auslagen für Druck, Auslagen für Druckerei, Print-Publikationsgebühren, ...
translation charge	Charges for the translation of a publication	translations charge, translation fee, Übersetzungsgebühr, Übersetzer:in, ...
unknown	Undefined costs whose allocation is unknown, e.g. unawareness due to data transfer by third parties and invoice reference no longer given → No target criterion and to be distinguished from the field "other"!	

As the openCost project progresses, we will **expand the cost types**. The cost type glossary will be kept up to date accordingly. If you would like to participate in the discussion on cost types, please visit [our GitHub repository](#).