

Cambridge Journal Package Cancellation

Library Services will cancel the Cambridge journal subscription package effective December 31, 2024. A small number of individual Cambridge journal subscriptions will be continued following the cancellation of the package. These individual subscriptions will be selected primarily on the basis of historical usage, recorded as article downloads, and whether the subscription content is unique (not replaceable by other subscriptions).

Each year, journal subscription costs inflate 3-5%. The budget for journal subscriptions has not increased in well over 5 years. We must cancel journal subscriptions every year to stay under budget. We regret the inconvenience this can cause the university community. Students and faculty who use Cambridge journals on a regular basis will need to prepare in advance for their research needs and ongoing scholarly projects.

Unfortunately, this same budgetary challenge may impact other library resource packages over the course of the upcoming years. We will keep you informed as additional information becomes available.

What is included in the Cambridge package?

Cambridge provides around 300 subscription journals. To see a list Cambridge journals, go to the [Journal Collections Power BI](#). On the JL Subject QSU page, filter on Subject Category: All, and filter on the Holdings Interface: Cambridge University Press.

There are over 100 Cambridge Open Access journals. These will continue to be available.

The Cambridge license also provides for Open Access (OA) publication with no article processing charges. Over the past 3 years, 2 MSU faculty have published OA articles in Cambridge journals under this license. Unfortunately, this benefit will no longer be provided.

Why is Library Services recommending this journal package for cancellation?

Library Services utilizes a special report to compare journal packages ([see an example](#)). When the Cambridge journal package is compared to other journal packages:

- We can see the package is used, with nearly 8000 article downloads from the Cambridge subscription platform in the most recent 3 years, although usage has trended downward recently.
- There is available replacement coverage(*) for many of the journals, though specific access may differ.
- In addition, upon analyzing how the package is used at the subject level, it appears other journal packages can substitute for most use cases.
 - See [an example comparison of Cambridge journal package usage to other multidisciplinary journal packages](#), at the subject level.

(*) Replacement coverage comes in 2 flavors: (1) we have access to the same exact journals through other packages, although the available journal volumes might vary, (2) we have access to other journals with similar subject coverage through other packages.

Once the subscriptions are cancelled, what are my options?

Library Services can provide subject-based journal reports upon request to programs or departments. These reports can provide a sense of the depth of alternative journal coverage available using [MavScholar](#). Please contact your [Library Liaison](#) for help or additional information.

How does Library Services decide what to recommend for cancellation?

While the use cases and value propositions for specific journal subscriptions vary, we focus on curricular demand, the possibility of accreditation impacts, actual usage by students and faculty, cost, and the availability of replacement coverage from other journal subscriptions or interlibrary loan.

Library Services has developed some of the most sophisticated journal collection analysis tools in the world today at much lower cost than any commercial product alternatives. These tools have been [written about and presented](#) on numerous occasions to a national and international audience. Library Services uses these tools to plan and execute journal collection revisions to continue supporting all university programs.

Can I continue to request journal subscriptions as curricular resources?

Library Services strives to maintain budgetary flexibility to support new curricular needs. New journal subscription requests will be reviewed under the terms of the [Library Services Collection Development Policy](#). Please continue to collaborate with your [Library Liaison](#) to request new subscriptions.