



**AALBORG UNIVERSITY**  
DENMARK

**Aalborg Universitet**

## Quick guide

### *Understanding the AAU Research Indicator*

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## Quick guide: Understanding the AAU Research Indicator

The AAU Research Indicator was approved by the Aalborg University Board in June 2023. The indicator is continually evaluated and adjusted.

### WHY?

Good research should be seen, read, cited, and used. In addition, Open Access to research, transparency, collaboration, and societal impacts are core principle in an Open Science approach to conducting and disseminating research. The AAU Research Indicator is based on Open Science principles and thus rewards research that adheres to these.

The AAU Research Indicator is relevant to you as a researcher because it is integrated into AAU's budget model for the allocation of funding and research resources to the university's departments. Therefore, the principles behind the AAU Research Indicator are relevant for you to apply in your research practices and publication strategy.

The AAU Research Indicator replaces the previous BFI model and is further developed and supplemented with a broader focus on Open Science.

[Read a detailed guide on the AAU Research Indicator targeted researchers.](#)



### HOW?

As a researcher, you are advised and encouraged to comply with the principles of the Open Science agenda by generating impact, for example, through participating in research collaborations and making your research as visible and open as possible. Open Access publishing contributes to spreading the impact of research.

If Open Access is a requirement, check if the publishing channel have Open Access options.

- It is always possible to achieve Open Access by paying (Gold Open Access), but check the possibilities of using one of AAU's [Open Access agreements](#) which offer the opportunity to publish Open Access in selected journals at no extra cost, i.e. without having to pay an Article Processing Charges (APCs).
- If you do not have funding for publishing in a journal without an AAU agreement, you can check if you are allowed to make a prior version of your article/contribution Open Access (Green Open Access). Use the [Sherpa/Romeo database](#) to check publisher and journal policies.

Collaborations (international, national, and local – in this order) also generates impact. This should thus be part of your considerations in your research practice.



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### WHAT?

Consider your publication type i.e., journal, book, proceeding etc.

In order for your research to receive points (money) in the new AAU Research indicator, your publication needs to be peer reviewed and registered in VBN/Pure as either 1) Research or 2) Consultancy.

A citation weigh is allocated to the publications if these are indexed in Scopus. The citation weight is based on the Field Weighed Citation Impact (FWCI). The FWCI is calculated at department level.

[Read a more detailed guide on Field Weighted Citation Impact and the citation weight calculation.](#)

Finally, the AAU Research Indicator allocates points to publication types in order of ranking:

| Publication types  | Basic points |
|--|--------------|
| Book<br>Report<br>Doctoral thesis  | 5            |
| Patent   | 2            |
| Journal article<br>Conference article in journal<br>Letter<br>Review<br>Contribution to book<br>Contribution to report<br>Conference article in proceeding | 1            |
| Encyclopedia article<br>Anthology<br>Editorial<br>Preprint   | 0,5          |

Your publication venue must be a professionally recognized publishing channel in [The Norwegian Register for Scientific Journals, Series and Publishers](#). If your preferred journal, books series, or publisher is not listed in the Norwegian Register, you can suggest that the publishing channel is added. This can be done by [creating a user](#) in the Norwegian Register. The website is available in both Norwegian and English and has descriptions of procedures and criteria for approval of proposals for publishing channels.

Be aware of the annual deadline for submissions to the Norwegian Register, which is November 30th.

Finally, if you publish your research in a journal or book series, check if the channel is indexed in the [citation database Scopus](#), for the publication to generate more visibility.

### WHERE?