

Unlock the value of open content

Checklist of best practices

OCLC works with governing bodies, publishers, aggregators, and libraries and their communities to enhance the visibility and accessibility of open content. We bring the power of the world's largest library cooperative to support open-access (OA) initiatives at scale. Consider these best practices as you make OA more available to users.

Survey the landscape

- ✓ How do you define "open content"?
- ✓ How do you engage in the movement?
- ✓ Do you create open content? Do you share with your discovery providers and catalog in WorldCat®?
- ✓ Do you include open content from traditional publishers in your search results? If so, how do you select your resources?
- ✓ Do you include open content from OA directories, aggregators, and other providers? If so, who are your top 20 providers?
- ✓ What role do open educational resources (OER) play at your institution? What are your top 10 OERs?
- ✓ What role do digital cultural heritage items play at your institution? Are they fully and openly available?
- ✓ Are you making open content available as a default in your discovery search?

Align with metadata standards

- ✓ Confirm your institution's conformance with existing NISO ODI guidelines (oclc.org/odiguidelines).
- ✓ Determine your quality factors. Which metadata standard will you follow?
- ✓ How will you integrate open content into existing library management workflows?

Harness partnerships

- ✓ Tell your vendors what you need and why you need it.
- ✓ Offer to participate in testing services intended to help people locate and obtain open content.
- ✓ Advocate for including open content in your reporting on resource usage.
- ✓ Look for opportunities to interact with others interested in open content, such as through Open Con or Open Access Week (openaccessweek.org).

Visit oclc.org/open for more information.

Learn more about OCLC's work to make open content more visible and accessible and how libraries are integrating OA to expand their resources.

Because what is known must be shared.®

