

WHY DO ACADEMICS NEED TO PUBLISH IN PRESTIGIOUS JOURNALS?

FACTORS DRIVING UNIVERSITIES

STEM disciplines: explicitly use JIF and citation statistics to calculate rankings. Non-STEM/peer review disciplines: peer reviewers can still be influenced by journal rankings; inchoate reputation, Journal Impact Factor (JIF).

Excellence in Engagement & Impact (EI) Assessment
No quantitative metrics: extent of OA is not assessed. EI quantitative measures include industry-linked grant income including ARC Linkage schemes.

Research Block Grant Funding (RBG)
RBG is determined in part by university's share of National Competitive Grant income.

University rankings: QS, THE, Shanghai
Inputs include grant income, citation analysis, JIF, publications in certain very high prestige journals (Nature, Science)

← **University policies** →

← **Employment contracts** →

Prestige journals provide

Metrics: Journal Impact Factor (JIF) e.g. citations to journal

Metrics: Individual citation statistics e.g. H index

Metrics: Journal rankings and discipline journal lists

Inchoate reputation

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Appointment, promotion policies
Publications in high JIF journals, or highly ranked journals, can be an explicit or implicit requirement, or the easiest way to evidence quality, international reach.

Annual performance reviews
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Workload allocation, pay, redundancy
Academics with lower publication/grant track records may be shifted to higher teaching loads, teaching-focused roles, or lose salary tied to performance

Research funding/grants
Grants can be a requirement for appointment; promotion; performance; academic survival; other benefits such as reduced teaching load. Highly competitive national schemes weight individual publication track record heavily (20-40%). Metrics and/or prestige important to establishing track record.