

## Finding information

Throughout the website [and training modules] you will find references and links to websites and publications that will give you greater detail on a topic. In some cases, particularly in the Literature Review, the links to further information will take you to a journal article. The scientific community publishes its research findings in professional, peer-reviewed journals. This ensures that only research of the highest quality is published. Journal publishers are commercial businesses, and require on subscriptions or sales of articles for their income. Most journal articles are published online, with the abstract (a summary of the article) available for free. In many cases, access to the full article can be obtained by purchasing a copy, usually for \$20-\$50. If you are part of a research institution, such as CSIRO or a University, your library is likely to have a subscription.

Alternatively, you may be able to contact the author directly for a copy of the article, or a pre-publication draft. Often the abstract will provide a name and contact email address for the primary author. Most researchers are happy to see their research used, so are likely to be willing to pass on a copy of a paper.

Printed publications, such as books, reports and fact-sheets can also be difficult to access. Publications quickly go out of print, while some are only distributed in the region where they were produced. If you want a copy of a particular publication that is out of print or not widely available, the first step would be to consult one of the many book search facilities on the internet. These are usually run by companies who can search bookshop and publishers catalogues to find particular titles. Alternatively, if the publication you are after is produced by a Commonwealth or State government agency, try contacting both their publications section and the department or agency that produced it.

The National Library of Australia ([www.nla.gov.au](http://www.nla.gov.au)) has an extensive, though not comprehensive, collection of Australian publications. If a particular publication is held by a library anywhere in Australia, it may be possible to arrange an interlibrary loan through your local library. The National Library of Australia can provide journal access to its members for a range of journals. Access depends on the database or journal. You can search their e-Resources section to see what can be accessed from outside the building. They can also provide copies of articles held in their collection (print and electronic) for a fee of \$13.20 for up to 50 pages, subject to some copyright restrictions. You can also use the NLA's "Patron Chat" service, where a librarian can advise you about the best options for obtaining an article. Select the "Ask a librarian" option from the homepage.

The Arrow Discovery Service (<http://search.arrow.edu.au/>) provides links to Australian research publications, including journal papers and theses. You can search online by subject, title, author or keyword.

Your local library or larger regional libraries may be also able to help you with access to journal articles and other publications.

The National Library of Australia has a website called the "Australian Libraries Gateway" ([www.nla.gov.au/libraries/path.html](http://www.nla.gov.au/libraries/path.html)) that will help you locate publications. This website has sections on 'Tracking down print resources', 'Publishers and booksellers' and 'Interlibrary loans'.

These sections will give you the best advice available to find your publication. The website also has links to on-line journals, on-line images, digital theses, Australian newspapers and other resources.