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# UK ORCID consortium membership

## 2019-2021 Pricing FAQ

## Background

Jisc and ORCID both share a mission to support the wider digital infrastructure needed for researchers to share research on a global scale. The Jisc UK ORCID consortium aims to provide tailored support and improved services so that you can more quickly gain the benefits and efficiencies of ORCID implementation.

As a member of the consortium, we would like to let you know about changes to your membership and the Jisc ORCID membership fees.

## Member benefits

As well as access to the premium API, by implementing ORCID as a member of the UK consortium you can benefit from:

- Support tailored to UK institutions, including locally hosted events and webinars and a dedicated support team with **defined service levels**
- Cost and time saved by using shared resources created by the consortium for member use
- Cost and time saved in technical integration
- Improved quality of integrations meeting ORCID's recommended practice
- Improved quality and effectiveness of communications and engagement
- The ability to influence direction of ORCID

## Recognition of ORCID IDs

In the **latest guidelines for REF2021**, HEFCE (now Research England) has given notice that they expect to require ORCID as a staff identifier in future exercises and its use is **strongly recommended** for REF2021. ORCID implementation is strongly endorsed by RCUK, ARMA, SCONUL, UCISA, Wellcome Trust, HESA and the UUK OA efficiencies group.

As mentioned in our **recent blog post on the UK consortium's plans for 2018**, Jisc has subsidised consortium activities for the last three years with project funds - this funding is now coming to an end. The fee has also been static since the launch of the consortium. To sustain the consortium in future, we will be changing our pricing model from January 2019.

## Changes to membership fees

This new pricing structure which will support current and planned technical and community activities provided by Jisc.

### 1. What are the new membership fees?

The new prices are based on Jisc Collections bandings and are priced in UK pounds. The full price list can be found here:

Band	2019 Jisc ORCID consortium price <sup>^</sup>	2020 Jisc ORCID consortium price <sup>^</sup>	2021 Jisc ORCID consortium price <sup>^</sup>	Savings over going direct to ORCID *
Band 1	£8,925	£9,193	£9,469	38%
Band 2	£7,013	£7,223	£7,440	51%
Band 3	£6,375	£6,566	£6,763	55%
Band 4	£5,100	£5,253	£5,411	64%
Band 5A	£3,825	£3,940	£4,058	73%
Band 5B	£3,188	£3,283	£3,382	77%
Band 6	£2,550	£2,627	£2,705	54%
Band 7	£1,913	£1,970	£2,029	65%
Band 8	£1,275	£1,313	£1,353	76%
Band 9	£825	£850	£875	85%
Band 10	£319	£328	£338	94%

<sup>^</sup>Prices exclude and are subject to VAT. A transaction management charge, currently either £100 or £50 for invoices over and under £1000 respectively is also applicable. For invoices in excess of £10,001 a transaction management charge of £200 will apply.

\* For premium membership. As at June 2018, ORCID's USD\$200M pricing threshold broadly falls between Jisc Collection's Band 5B and Band 6. Due to changes in the income of institutions, exchange rate movements and periodic re-evaluation of the Bands the savings expressed above should be treated as indicative and subject to change.

## 2. When does the fee increase happen?

The new contract and price will begin 01 January 2019.

## 3. Do institutions need to do anything?

No. Jisc Collections will contact you at renewal time later this year.

## 4. Why is the fee increasing?

Since August 2015 Jisc has heavily subsidised consortium membership to cover the costs of technical and community support from project funding intended to support the implementation of ORCID in the UK. This project funding has now come to an end and we need to build the cost of this support into the ongoing price model.

## 5. What were the considerations when we modelled the 2019 pricing?

- A discounted rate - Jisc ORCID membership is significantly cheaper than a direct agreement with ORCID for premium membership. For some institutions the new pricing is cheaper (bands 9 and 10)
- As well as access to the premium API, this discounted rate includes a greater level of support tailored to UK members. *Consortium membership provides more for less.*
- Pricing for Jisc members was static during the three years term of the last agreement
- It reflects the fact that current fees are subsidised by project funds, which are now drawing to an end – i.e. we have been absorbing those costs for the sector
- We will absorb fluctuations in exchange rate by charging in £

## 6. What will the additional money be spent on?

This isn't additional money - the new price will cover the consortium technical and community support which was previously funded by Jisc, in addition to the ORCID consortium membership fee. The price levels are based on a cost recovery model.

## 7. What are the benefits to institutions? What value does this have?

A full list of the features of ORCID membership is [available here](#). A [recent blog post](#) summarises recent activities. As well as having access to the premium API, with the support of the UK consortium, member institutions will be able to implement ORCID more effectively and efficiently by benefiting from:

- » Cost and time saved in technical integration
- » Cost and time saved by using shared resources created by the consortium for member use
- » Improved quality of integrations meeting ORCID's recommended practice
- » Improved quality and effectiveness of communications and engagement
- » Support tailored to UK institutions
- » The ability to influence direction of ORCID

**8. What is the alternative? How does this compare to going directly to ORCID?**

Institutions can choose to go directly to ORCID for either Basic or Premium membership.

<https://members.orcid.org/api/orcid-api-comparison>. Note the basic membership has limitations on data usage and number of API keys. However, it is cheaper to get Premium membership via the Jisc UK ORCID consortium (which includes additional and localised technical and community support). But by joining the Jisc UK ORCID consortium, institutions will get more for less (even with this fee increase). Note that the Jisc consortium only offers premium membership.

**9. What happens if the needed funds are not raised?**

Jisc cannot provide the same level of support without sufficient funding and so it would not be viable for us to continue to lead the consortium. Members would therefore have to go directly to ORCID, pay increased costs and lose additional, localised support.

**10. What is the full business case? Can we get a breakdown of what the costs are going towards (i.e. how much on support / ORCID membership fee)?**

Through the fees Jisc has to cover consortium licence:

Tier	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
30 - 99 members	USD 139.050	USD 143.222	USD 147.518	USD 151.944	USD 156.502
100 - 250 members	USD 206.000	USD 212.180	USD 218.545	USD 225.102	USD 231.855

We also have to cover 2FTE for the technical support and community engagement. ORCID SLAs requires all consortia to have 1FTE per 33 institutions. We currently have 90 institutions. Obviously if we go above 99 institution we have to ensure we are able to cover the higher costs through the new subscription model. This is cost recovery model not a profit model. Any small surplus made will be reinvested into the service.

**11. Why isn't this cost being included in the main Jisc subscription?**

The number of services we can include in the main subscription is limited by core funding constraints. If we are to add additional services to the main subscription, the main subscription would need to be re-evaluated.