An FAQ on IEEE Policy Regarding Authors Rights to Post Accepted Versions of Their Articles

- How does IEEE define an “accepted” version?
- How is “published” version defined?
- What other versions of authors’ articles are defined by IEEE?
- Why does IEEE allow the accepted version of the article to be posted by authors and not the final, published version?
- Does IEEE consider authors posting their articles on preprint servers or on their companies’ web sites to be a form of prior publication, which may then disqualify the articles from further editorial consideration?
- Can instructors post copies of their own articles online as part of their course material?
- Which version of an article can authors post if they have published their journal articles in the IEEE Open Access program?
- Does the policy affect how authors post their articles on preprint servers such as TechRxiv or ArXiv?
- If an author's work was supported by a funding agency, which version of the article may be posted in the agency’s free-access repository?
- How does the policy affect authors who publish their articles in IEEE conferences?
- Is it possible for a third-party to post an IEEE article online?
- Where can authors find a copy of the author posting policy?
- What other steps are necessary for authors who would like to post their accepted articles?
- What if authors have other questions about this policy?

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How is “published” version defined?

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