

Legal Deposit in Western Australia

Information for Western Australian Authors and Publishers

Legal Deposit

Legal deposit is a statutory provision requiring publishers to deposit copies of their publications in a nominated collecting institute. The legal deposit system ensures that the works of authors and publishers will be preserved for present and future generations.

The State Library of Western Australia is the legal deposit library for Western Australian publications.

The *Legal Deposit Act 2012* was passed in May 2012. This Act covers print, audio-visual and digital material, including works published on the Internet. The Legal Deposit Regulations 2013, covering print and other physical items, come into force on January 1st, 2014. These Regulations will be extended to include Internet (online) publications the near future.

The Act applies to material published in WA, published by a person who is resident in WA, or whose principal place of business is in WA.

A publication is any work that has been made available to the public, regardless of whether it was free or paid, and can be in any format including a book, newspaper, journal, pamphlet, map, printed music, film, CD, DVD, or other device.

Publications need to be deposited with the State Library within 30 days of publication. Print and other non-online publications should be mailed to the following address:

Legal Deposit,
State Library of Western Australia
25 Francis St
Perth WA 6000

Hand delivered legal deposit material should be taken to the ground floor Welcome Desk with a completed receipt form which can be found at:

slwa.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-03/Receipt%20of%20material%20-%20SLWA_0.pdf

We encourage the donation of a second copy of your publication – the first copy is archival, the second is an access copy. If you prefer to be paid for the second copy, please let us know and if we require a second copy our agent will purchase it on our behalf.

If your publication is also available in digital form, we would prefer to collect a digital copy as the second copy. Digital publications should be deposited through the National edeposit (NED) portal ned.gov.au

If you have any queries about legal deposit or what needs to be deposited, please contact us on (08) 9427 3348, or via email at legal.deposit@slwa.wa.gov.au

Legal Deposit to the National Library and in other Australian States

Publishers in all Australian jurisdictions are required to deposit print and electronic publications with the National Library of Australia nla.gov.au/legal-deposit in accordance with the *Copyright Act 1968*.

If both formats are available, electronic is preferred. The National Library does not collect audio-visual material.

Please send items for the National Library directly to them, the State Library WA does not forward items to the National library.

Information on the legal deposit requirements for publishers in other states of Australia is available on the National and State Libraries Australia web page nsla.org.au/resources/legal-deposit.

Internet and Online publications

Until the Act and Regulations are extended to Internet (online) publications, the Library encourages deposit of Western Australia digital publications in the spirit of Legal Deposit through the National edeposit (NED) portal ned.gov.au

Deposit through NED will also fulfil your national legal deposit obligations.

National edeposit (NED) service is a collaborative initiative of Australian National and state and territory libraries for the capture, preservation, and discovery of published electronic material across Australia. More information on this including portal access for publishers can be found at ned.gov.au

National edeposit (NED) enquiries: email ned.enquiries@slwa.wa.gov.au phone (08) 9427 3348

Copies for Public Libraries

The State Library WA does not accept items for Public Libraries directly from authors and/or publishers.

Selection decisions for Public Libraries are the responsibility of staff in each Public Library. You may contact Public Libraries directly using the contact details for them on our Public Libraries webpage.

Alternatively, if you would like your publication to be considered for selection for public libraries, you may contact these suppliers using the information on the following websites:

- Westbooks: westbooks.com.au
- ALS Library Services: alslib.com/authors
- James Bennett: bennett.com.au/publisher-services

Arrangements made for the supply of public library titles via these suppliers has no relation to the supply of titles for collections housed within the State Library of Western Australia.

Titles accepted by our suppliers must fit specified profiles for content and format. Not all titles can be accepted.

A special note for family history, local history, and biography writers

The State Library of Western Australia collects a wide range of documents and images for the J. S. Battye Library of West Australian History, and you may have some treasures to contribute to these heritage collections.

Personal letters, diaries and photographs can provide a fascinating glimpse of the past and/or depict contemporary life in Western Australia. These records are useful for researchers, family historians and others involved in the process of constructing history. Please see the Donate to our collections web page at slwa.wa.gov.au/how-do-i/contribute-state-library-collections/donate-our-collections for information on how to make an offer.

Copyright

Legal deposit is sometimes confused with copyright, but they are not the same. Under the Copyright Act 1968 copyright protection is granted automatically in Australia from the moment a work is created. There are no formalities to be completed, such as registration and payment of fees.

See the Copyright in library collections page of our website for further information slwa.wa.gov.au/about/corporate-information/copyright-library-collections

ISBNs and ISSNs

The ISBN (International Standard Book Number and International Standard Serial Number) is a 13-digit number that uniquely identifies books and book-like products published internationally. Each number identifies a unique edition of a publication, from one specific publisher.

The State Library does not issue ISBNs or ISSNs, nor do we require you to have an ISBN or an ISSN to deposit a publication.

More information on applying for ISBNs and ISSNs can be found on the National Library Website nla.gov.au/using-library/services-publishers/apply-isbn-issn-or-ismn

Prepublication Data Service

The Prepublication Data Service (formerly Cataloguing in Publication) is a free service offered by the National Library of Australia.

This service is for Australian publishers and self-publishing authors who want the details of their upcoming publications made available to Australian libraries, library suppliers, and other members of the book industry for acquisition purposes.

More information about the Prepublication Data Service can be found on the National Library's website nla.gov.au/using-library/services-publishers/prepublication-data-service

Contact us

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