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How do I search for research items on ResearchGate?

Simply type the name of the researcher, project, research item, or question you're looking for in the search bar at the top of any ResearchGate page and press **Enter**. If the item you're looking for doesn't immediately appear in the search results list, try using the filters across the top of the page (e.g. Projects, Publications).

Note: The search bar at the top of every ResearchGate page supports DOIs, allowing you to quickly find and identify a publication when you have its DOI.

What does the 'Request full-text' button do?

Clicking the 'Request full-text' button on a publication page causes a message to be sent from the requester to the authors of the publication. Recipients of such messages can ignore them, decline them, or respond. An author who concludes that they have the right to share the requested content may choose to share the full-text publicly or to send a private copy to the requester. No content is automatically supplied to anyone in response to a full-text request. In no event does ResearchGate make available or provide a copy of the full-text to the requester. That can only be done by an author.

If the authors are not on ResearchGate yet, the request will not be received unless and until they join ResearchGate and add the publication to their profiles. If the authors are on ResearchGate but haven't yet confirmed authorship of the publication, they'll only receive the request once they confirm their authorship.

How do I request a full-text?

If there's no full-text available on a publication page, you can request a copy from the authors by clicking on the **Request full-text** button at the top right-hand corner of the publication page. As we strongly believe that scientific content should be accessible to everyone, this option is available to both logged-in members and logged-out users.

If the authors are on ResearchGate and have added the publication to their profiles, the request is sent straight to them. If the authors choose to make the full-text available either publicly or by privately sharing it with you, you'll receive a notification. If the authors are not on ResearchGate yet or have not yet added the publication to their profiles, the request will not be received unless and until they later join ResearchGate and add the publication to their profiles.

When will I receive the full-text I requested?

Full-text requests can only be fulfilled by the authors of the publication. No content is automatically supplied in response to a request and in no event will ResearchGate make available or provide a copy of the full-text you have requested. Because of this, the time it takes for your request to be fulfilled is entirely dependent on the authors. It's possible that your request may never be fulfilled. This can happen if, for example, the authors decide that they do not have the right to share the content with you, or because the authors are not yet on ResearchGate. If the authors are not on ResearchGate or have not yet added the publication to their profiles, your request will not be received unless and until they join ResearchGate and add the publication to their profiles.

How do I cancel a full-text request?

It's not possible to cancel a full-text request. Because of this, we encourage you to exercise discretion when requesting full-texts from authors and to only request research that is of interest to you.

How do I respond to a full-text request?

If you receive a request for one of your full-texts, you will have the option to respond. This can be done by either sharing the full-text publicly, sending a private copy to anyone who has requested it, or sending them a private message letting them know why you can't share the full-text. You also have the option to decline or simply ignore the request.

To respond to a full-text request:

1. Visit <https://www.researchgate.net/requests>
2. In the Open requests tab, scroll down to the relevant research item
3. Click the blue **View request** button underneath the research item's title
4. Indicate whether you have a full-text or do not have a full-text to share, and then follow the instructions.

If you choose to **Add a public full-text**, you will need to select the full-text file, review the upload conditions, and decide whether you also wish to upload a private copy. Please be aware that if you select this option, the full-text will be visible to everyone.

If you choose to **Send the full-text in a private message**, you will need to select the full-text file and select which recipients you would like to send it to. If more than one person has requested the full-text, all requestors' names will be available for selection. You can enter a message for the recipients if you wish.

If you don't have a full-text to share, you can select **Send message only** and enter a message to let anyone who has requested your work know why you can't share it with them.

If you wish, you can also **Decline the request** or simply not respond.

Note: You must always make sure that you have the right to publicly or privately share your full-text before doing so. For more information, see the Copyright section in the Help Center.

How can I decline a full-text request?

To decline a full-text request:

1. Visit <https://www.researchgate.net/requests>
2. In the **Open requests** tab, scroll down to the relevant research item
3. To decline with no message, simply click the blue **Decline request** button underneath the research item's title
4. If you want to give a reason for declining (e.g. I don't have the full-text of this paper), you first need to click **View request**, then **Respond**, then **Send message only**.

Note: If you choose to give a reason for declining, your message will be recorded in your sent messages section (<https://www.researchgate.net/messages/sent>).