



Citizen science collaboration grant

Referencing using DOIs

As part of UKRI's commitment to the principles of [DORA](#), we ask that publication references within your application are provided as Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) ONLY, if possible. This document provides guidance on using DOIs for publication references.

What is a DOI?

A DOI is a unique alphanumeric string that identifies content and provides a persistent link to its location on the internet. DOIs can be found in database records and the reference lists of published works. Because the vast majority of scholarship is available and/or retrieved online, publications will almost always have an assigned DOI. It provides a more reliable link to online content than URLs and it is therefore ideal for referencing publications. Furthermore, standardising referencing with DOIs allows for space to be better utilised within the Case for Support, help assessors find the full publications efficiently, and reduce unconscious biases that can be associated with journal titles.

How do I find a DOI for a publication?

There are several ways that you can find the DOI for a publication:

- Almost all journals publish the DOI on the first page of each article.
- Some online resources used to search for journal articles will supply DOI of an article in the citation options. View the full citation to see if a DOI is included.
- If you remain unsure whether a publication has a DOI number, you can search using [CrossRef's quest query form](#). This tool allows you to search for a DOI number, or to identify an article from a DOI number. Please make sure that you avoid typos and use specific information in the form to ensure you retrieve the correct DOI.

How should I reference DOIs?

Once you have identified your DOIs, you should use the following structure for referencing:

- In-text citations should use sequential and superscripted reference numbers as shown here –

Text^[1]

- The reference list at the end of the case for support should then be sequentially numbered to correspond with the in-text citations, followed by the DOI (the string "https://doi.org/" presents the DOI as a hyperlink, and "xxxxx" refers to the specific DOI number) –

[1] <https://doi.org/xxxxx>

- The preferred format of DOIs has changed over time and older publications might use previous formats (for example, “http://dx.doi.org/” or “DOI:” before the DOI number). In your reference list, please ensure that you standardise DOIs into the current preferred format of “https://doi.org/” for ALL entries.
- To avoid transcription errors, copy and paste the DOI from each referenced article directly into your reference list. Do not change the capitalization or punctuation of the DOI.
- Do not add any punctuation directly after the DOI because this may interfere with hyperlink functionality.
- **Check all hyperlinks in your reference list prior to submission to ensure that the DOIs have been entered correctly.**

What if a publication doesn't have a DOI?

- You may find that some articles do not have a DOI. The International DOI Foundation was founded in 1998 and most major publishers started using DOIs on their journal articles in the early 21st century. While some publishers have retrospectively assigned DOIs to articles, you might find that some articles published before 2000 do not have DOIs
- You may wish to also make other references in your Case for Support, such as to online resources or databases, that do not possess DOIs
- In these scenarios, we ask that you reference in the same manner as you would for a print version of your work and provide a URL link, if possible. The remainder of the reference list should still consist of DOIs ONLY.