

NLA Publishing

Since its establishment, the National Library of Australia has collected papers, letters and journals, manuscripts, oral histories, books, magazines, newspapers, pictures, maps, films, videos, Australian web sites and online publications. Together, these collections chart our story as a nation and are the basis of the National Library's publishing program.

What we publish

The National Library is seeking submissions from authors with manuscripts that use our collection. We publish adult non-fiction (illustrated and non-illustrated), illustrated children's non-fiction (up to middle grade) and selected exhibition catalogues. Occasionally we publish children's picture books, but these are a small part of our list. Our focus areas include history, art, photography, the environment and literature.

Our publishing criteria

Publishing decisions will be made based on the following criteria:

- extent to which primary source material in the National Library's collections has been or will be used to highlight the Library's collections;
- extent to which the proposed publication leads to an understanding of Australian history and culture, promotes knowledge and use of the Library's resources and of the richness and diversity of the Library's collections;
- standards of writing and research; credentials of the author(s) and their ability to promote the book;
- the sales potential, projected costs and potential revenues;
- extent to which the proposed publication will assist the Library in meeting its strategic priorities;
- extent to which the proposed publication complements the Library's overall publishing program;
- opportunities for fruitful collaboration through publication.

Submission requirements

Please supply the following information. Asterisks denote required information.

- Name and contact details*
- Website
- Previous works
- Title (proposed) of work*
- Relevance to the collection* *Your application must demonstrate knowledge of and identify specific Library collections that are relevant to your book. For example, it is not enough to list 'dance collections'. You must identify the relevant manuscripts, objects, ephemera, etc., within the Library's dance or other collections. Applicants who do not show investigation into how the Library's collections will support their proposed book will not be considered. Applicants should also demonstrate awareness of any access or rights issues that may apply to access to the selected collection items. Information about access conditions can be found in the catalogue record.*
- Word count*
- 3 sample chapters plus a synopsis (500 words)*. For children's books, please submit as complete a manuscript as possible.
- Marketing points
- Target audience
- Uniqueness of approach
- Ways of promoting

Please submit only one manuscript at a time. Additional materials should be in a single Word document (.doc or .docx) or PDF. Please use a simple, clear font.

Submission process and response.

Please note that our response time can span six months. You will be advised via email when your submission has been assessed by the NLA Publishing team.

Due to the large number of manuscripts we receive and consider, we are unable to provide individual editorial advice.

Thank you. We look forward to reading your work.