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## **Next-Generation Passive Optical Networks: Progress and Challenges**

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:

closed (31 July 2023)

## **Message from the Guest Editors**

This Special Issue of the *Photonics* journal covers a large scope of research in NG-PONs, concentrating on optical access networks and the convergence of integrated fiber and wireless access technologies, and solicits contributions in, but not limited to:

- Evolution, design, and performance evaluation of new standards for next-generation PONs;
- Future softwarization and virtualization of optical access networks;
- Dynamic bandwidth allocation (DBA), dynamic and wavelength bandwidth allocation (DWBA) algorithms, and multiple media access control (MAC) mechanisms;
- Optical metro edge and access aggregation convergence;
- Convergence of optical access and mobile broadband systems for new radio access networks;
- Use of AI/ML for improving performance in optical and radio access networks;
- Fiber-wireless integrated radio access network architecture design and system interface;
- PON architectures for low-latency and highcapacity mesh interconnect of edge nodes;
- Free-space optical communication, elastic optical networks, radio over fiber
- Low Latency Optical Network Systems & Techniques for 6G time-sensitive applications



