Web of Science Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

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The Web of Science Core Collection
At the heart of the Web of Science platform

- Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE)
- Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI)
- Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI)
- Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI)
- Books Citation Index (BKCI)
- Conference Proceedings Citation Index (CPCI)
Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria
Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

Any journal that fails to meet all quality criteria will be removed from the Web of Science Core Collection.

- Journals that meet the quality criteria enter ESCI.
- Journals that meet quality and impact criteria enter SCIE, SSCI or AHCI.
- ESCI journals that gain impact move to SCIE, SSCI or AHCI.
- SCIE, SSCI and AHCI journals that decrease in impact move to ESCI.

Web of Science Core Collection

Clarivate 2023
# Journal Evaluation Process

## Quality & Impact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selection Criteria</th>
<th>Quality Criteria</th>
<th>Impact Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>28 selection criteria</td>
<td>Quality Criteria</td>
<td>Impact Criteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 quality criteria to select for editorial rigor and publishing best practice</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4 impact criteria to select for the most impactful journals</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

### Initial Triage
- ISSN
- Journal Title
- Journal Publisher
- URL (online journals)
- Content Access
- Presence of Peer Review Policy
- Contact Details

### Editorial Triage
- Scholarly Content
- Article Titles and Article and Abstracts in English
- Bibliographic Information in Roman Script
- Clarity of Language
- Timeliness and/or Publication Volume
- Website Functionality/Journal Format
- Presence of Ethics Statements
- Editorial Affiliation Details
- Author Affiliation Details

### Editorial Evaluation
- Editorial Board Composition
- Validity of Statements
- Peer Review
- Content Relevance
- Grant Support Details
- Adherence to Community Standards
- Author Distribution
- Appropriate Citations to the Literature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Successful Outcomes</th>
<th>Unsuccessful Outcomes</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starts editorial triage</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enters ESCI and is evaluated for impact</td>
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- Failed editorial impact evaluation
  - Entry/continued coverage in ESCI Citation activity is monitored
  - Re-evaluation subject to journal performance
The **Initial triage** stage ensures unambiguous identification of the journal, access to content and contacts.

### Initial Triage
- ISSN
- Journal Title
- Journal Publisher
- URL (online journals)
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- Presence of Peer Review Policy
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### Editorial Triage
- Scholarly Content
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- Clarity of Language
- Timeliness and/or Publication Volume
- Website Functionality/Journal Format
- Presence of Ethics Statements
- Editorial Affiliation Details
- Author Affiliation Details

### Editorial Evaluation (Quality)
- Editorial Board Composition
- Validity of Statements
- Peer Review
- Content Relevance
- Grant Support Details
- Adherence to Community Standards
- Author Distribution
- Appropriate Citations to the Literature

### Editorial Evaluation (Impact)
- Comparative Citation Analysis
- Author Citation Analysis
- IBI Citation Analysis
- Content Significance

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**Successful outcomes**
- Starts editorial triage
- Starts editorial evaluation
- Enters ESCI and is evaluated for impact

**Unsuccessful outcomes**
- Submission cannot be completed
- Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved
- Failed editorial triage: Our first evaluation: Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved
- On consecutive evaluations: the submission subject to embargo of at least one year
- Failed editorial quality evaluation: Re-submission subject to embargo of at least two years
- Failed editorial impact evaluation: Re-submission subject to embargo of at least two years

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**Clarivate 2023**
The **Initial triage** stage ensures unambiguous identification of the journal, access to content and contacts.

- ISSN
- Journal Title
- Journal Publisher
- URL (online journals)
- Content Access
- Presence of Peer Review Policy
- Contact Details

---

**Initial Triage**

- No embargo on re-submission

**Editorial Triage**

**Editorial Evaluation (Quality)**

**Editorial Evaluation (Impact)**
The **Initial triage** stage ensures unambiguous identification of the journal, access to content and contacts.

- **ISSN**
- **Journal Title**
- **Journal Publisher**
- **URL (online journals)**
- **Content Access**
- **Presence of Peer Review Policy**
- **Contact Details**
Editorial Triage determines if the journal merits a complete in-depth evaluation. Basic editorial practices are reviewed.

- **Scholarly content**
- **Article Titles and Article Abstracts in English**
- **Bibliographic Information in Roman Script**
- **Clarity of language**
- **Timeliness and/or Publication Volume**
- **Website Functionality/Journal format**
- **Presence of Ethics Statements**
- **Editorial Affiliation Details**
- **Author Affiliation Details**
**Editorial Triage** determines if the journal merits a complete in-depth evaluation. Basic editorial practices are reviewed.

### Successful outcomes

- Initial Triage
  - Starts editorial triage
  - Starts editorial evaluation
- Editorial Triage
  - Failed editorial triage
    - Our first evaluation: Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved
    - On consecutive evaluations: re-submission subject to embargo of at least one year
  - Failed editorial quality evaluation
    - Re-submissions subject to embargo of at least two years
- Editorial Evaluation (Quality)
  - Successful outcomes
- Editorial Evaluation (Impact)
  - Successful outcomes

### Unsuccessful outcomes

- Submission cannot be completed
  - Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved
- Editorial Evaluation (Quality)
  - Unsuccessful outcomes
- Editorial Evaluation (Impact)
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**Editorial Triage** determines if the journal merits a complete in-depth evaluation. Basic editorial practices are reviewed.

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### Quality Criteria

- **Scholarly Content**
- Article Titles and Article Abstracts in English
- Bibliographic Information in Roman Script
- Clarity of language
- Scholarly Content
- Article Titles and Article Abstracts in English
- Bibliographic Information in Roman Script
- Timeliness and/or Publication Volume
- Website Functionality/Journal Format
- Presence of Ethics Statements
- Author Affiliation Details
- Editorial Board Composition
- Validity of Statements
- Peer Review
- Contact Information
- Grant Support Details
- Adherence to Community Standards
- Author Distribution
- Appropriate Citations to the Literature
- Comparative Citation Analysis
- Author Citation Analysis
- EBM Citation Analysis
- Content Significance

### Impact Criteria

- Clarivate 2023

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**Initial Triage**

**Editorial Triage**

**Editorial Evaluation (Quality)**

**Editorial Evaluation (Impact)**
At the **Quality** step we check the alignment of the journal’s title and scope with the editorial board and published content. Evidence of **editorial rigour** is also sought for.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comparative Citation Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Author Citation Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EB Citation Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content Significance</td>
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**Initial Triage**

**Editorial Triage**

**Editorial Evaluation (Quality)**

**Editorial Evaluation (Impact)**
At the **Quality** step we check the alignment of the journal’s title and scope with the editorial board and published content. Evidence of **editorial rigour** is also sought for.

- **Editorial Board Composition**
- **Validity of Statements**
- **Peer Review**
- **Content Relevance**
- **Grant Support Details**
- **Adherence to Community Standards**
- **Author Distribution**
- **Appropriate Citations to the Literature**

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**Initial Triage**

**Editorial Triage**

**Editorial Evaluation (Quality)**

2-year embargo on re-submission

**Editorial Evaluation (Impact)**
At the **Quality** step we check the alignment of the journal’s title and scope with the editorial board and published content. Evidence of **editorial rigour** is also sought for.

**Initial Triage**

**Editorial Triage**

**Editorial Evaluation (Quality)**

**Editorial Evaluation (Impact)**
Clarivate 2023

1. Initial Triage
   - ISSN
   - Journal Title
   - Publisher
   - URL (online journals)
   - Presence of Peer Review Policy
   - Contact Details

2. Editorial Triage
   - Scholarly Content
   - Article Titles and Article Abstracts in English
   - Bibliographic Information in Roman Script
   - Clarity of Language
   - Timeliness and/or Publication Volume
   - Website Functionality/Journal Format
   - Presence of Ethics Statements
   - Editorial Affiliation Details
   - Author Affiliation Details

3. Editorial Evaluation
   - Editorial Board Composition
   - Validity of Statements
   - Peer Review
   - Content Relevance
   - Grant Support Details
   - Adherence to Community Standards
   - Author Distribution
   - Appropriate Citations to the Literature

Quality Criteria
- Comparative Citation Analysis
- Author Citation Analysis
- EB Citation Analysis
- Cited Significance

Impact Criteria
- Content Relevance
- Grant Support Details
- Adherence to Community Standards
- Appropriate Citations to the Literature

Successful outcomes
- Starts editorial triage
- Starts editorial evaluation
- Enters ESCI and is evaluated for impact

Unsuccessful outcomes
- Submission cannot be completed
- Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved
- Failed editorial triage
  - Our first evaluation: Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved
  - On consecutive evaluations: Re-submission subject to embargo of at least one year
- Failed editorial quality evaluation
  - Re-submission subject to embargo of at least two years

Clarivate 2023

Web of Science Core Collection

Evaluation
- SCIE
- SSCI
- AHCI
- ESCI
- BKCI
- CPCI

Quality criteria
- Quality & impact criteria

Gain impact
Lose impact

Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)
We continuously monitor indexed journals for quality. If valid concerns are raised regarding an indexed journal, either by users or through monitoring by our in-house editors, the journal will be re-evaluated according to our selection criteria.

See our Removal from coverage policy and our blogpost for more information.
Web of Science Publisher Portal
## Journals (103)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journal title</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>ISSN</th>
<th>E-ISSN</th>
<th>Date Submitted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Under Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct 07, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pending</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Oct 04, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Under Evaluation</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Oct 03, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Under Evaluation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Oct 03, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct 02, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Under Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct 02, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Under Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct 01, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Submit Journal
New Evaluation Request

Steps

1. ISSN Check
2. Language
3. Journal Details
4. Access Information
5. Contact Information
6. Summary

ISSN Check

Please note the ISSN(s) cannot be changed or added after proceeding to the next page. If you need to change any ISSN(s) after clicking the Next button, you will need to re-enter all other information.

Enter your ISSN

- ISSN
- Confirm ISSN

- This journal does not have a print ISSN
- Online ISSN
- Confirm ISSN

Hints

Important Note: X
- Journals submitted with incomplete access information will not be evaluated.

If you require more information, please read our Journal Selection Essay for a description of the evaluation process.

Next ➔
Importance of Competent & Motivated Reviewers
# Journal Evaluation Process

## Quality & Impact

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- **Submission cannot be completed**
  - Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved

- **Failed editorial triage**
  - Our first evaluation: Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved
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  - Re-submission subject to embargo of at least two years

- **Failed editorial impact evaluation**
  - Entry/continued coverage in ESCI Citation activity is monitored
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* Areas that good peer reviewers can help improve
Challenges for publishers
How are you finding the right reviewers for your papers?

75%
Percent of editors who say that finding reviewers and getting them to accept invitations is the hardest part of their job\(^1\)

3:1
On average, it takes 3 invitations to secure 1 reviewer\(^2\)

70%
Percent of researchers who say that the "article was outside my area of expertise" is the most common reason to decline a review invitation\(^2\)

0.66
Reviews per submission for Emerging Regions compared to 1.95 for Established Regions\(^2\)

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\(^1\) Publon’ 2016 Survey of 400 Editors
\(^2\) Global State of Peer Review 2018
Accelerate your peer review process

Find, screen, and connect with reviewers faster using Web of Science Reviewer Locator

**Save time finding qualified reviewers**

Quickly match your manuscripts to relevant reviewers from a trusted dataset of over 28 million author records that you can filter by country or region.

**Quickly identify conflicts of interest**

Easily eliminate reviewers with automatic flags for potential conflicts of interest based on reliable Web of Science Core Collection data.

**Increase your accepted invitations**

Use up-to-date information to contact reviewers who are more likely to accept your invitation based on their peer review history.

**Diversify your reviewer pool**

Find new reviewers for your manuscripts with a best-in-class algorithm that accounts for both publication and peer review history.
Save time finding qualified reviewers
Quickly match your manuscripts to relevant experts who author the world’s leading research

Best-in-class algorithm
• Our algorithm suggests experts who match your manuscripts.
  - Driven by relevant authored publications in the Web of Science Core Collection
  - Considers peer review history and 360° researcher profile
  - Identifies possible co-author or co-organizational conflicts of interest
  - Trained and A/B tested on reviewer selection rates from ScholarOne

High quality data
80m+ publications
28m+ author records
10m+ verified reviews
Reviewers are overworked and under-recognized

- Increased submissions and outdated reviewer experiences lead to stagnant reviewer pools.
- Editors need a way to engage and motivate reviewers for their journals.

- Time spent on writing reviews each year estimated at 68.5M hours.¹
- Fragmented recognition:
  - Thanks for reviewing email
  - Certificate from journal
  - Name published in journal each year.
- No evidence of the extent of reviewers’ contributions or impact.
- Limited engagement after review is done.

- Overworked reviewers.
- Stagnant reviewer pools.
- Difficulty finding and motivating reviewers.

¹Global State of Peer Review
Cultivate a community of repeat reviewers
Web of Science Reviewer Recognition service

**Engage reviewers**
Publicly recognize peer reviewers for their contributions and expertise and increase the likelihood of reviewer acceptance.

**Integrate seamlessly**
Get up and running quickly with a flexible solution that can integrate with any journal management system and includes pre-built integrations for ScholarOne, Editorial Manager, eJournalPress, OJS, and more.

**Monitor competitors**
Track reviewer uptake, view satisfaction rates, and identify journals that engage the same reviewers.

**Support scholars**
Join a growing community of 9,500+ journals and millions of researchers working to elevate recognition of peer review.
Build stronger relationships with Web of Science Reviewer Recognition service

48% of ASM reviewers surveyed said they are more likely to accept review invitations from journals using Web of Science Reviewer Recognition Service.
Provide seamless recognition to your reviewers
Strengthen your reviewer relationships

1. Reviewer opts in
2. Reviewer Recognition service automatically retrieves and transfers verified review details to the reviewer's Web of Science Researcher Profile

Reviewer showcases verified review activity on profile open to the entire research community.
More information on our website

- Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria
- Web of Science Publisher Portal
- Web of Science Academy
Useful Links

Web of Science
https://clarivate.com/webofsciencegroup/solutions/web-of-science/

Journal Citation Reports
https://clarivate.com/webofsciencegroup/solutions/journal-citation-reports/

Master Journal List
https://mjl.clarivate.com/

Web of Science Core Collection Training
https://clarivate.libguides.com/home

Web of Science Support
https://support.clarivate.com/ScientificandAcademicResearch/s/?language=en_US