

Publication Ethics and Publication Malpractice Statement

International Journal of Statistical Sciences (IJSS) is committed to upholding the highest standards of publication ethics and addressing publication malpractice to ensure the integrity and credibility of the scientific record. Authors, editors, reviewers, and publishers are expected to adhere to the following ethical principles throughout the publication process:

A: Responsibilities of the Editor and Executive Editorial Board

The responsibilities of the Editor-in-Chief and the Executive Editorial Board of IJSS are crucial for maintaining the quality, integrity, and credibility of the publication. Here's a breakdown of their key responsibilities:

1. Editor-in-Chief Responsibilities:

- **Overall Editorial Oversight:** The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for the overall editorial direction and management of the journal. They ensure that the journal's scope, focus, and content align with its mission and objectives.
- **Editorial Decision Making:** The Editor-in-Chief makes final decisions on manuscript acceptance, rejection, or revision based on the recommendations of the peer reviewers and in accordance with the journal's policies and guidelines.
- **Quality Assurance:** The Editor-in-Chief oversees the peer review process to ensure its integrity, fairness, and effectiveness. They monitor the quality of published content and take appropriate actions to maintain high standards.
- **Conflict Resolution:** The Editor-in-Chief addresses conflicts of interest, disputes, and ethical issues that may arise during the editorial process, consulting with the Executive Editorial Board or relevant stakeholders when necessary.
- **Editorial Board Management:** The Editor-in-Chief appoints and manages the Editorial Board, selecting qualified experts in the field to serve as Associate Editors, Section Editors, or Editorial Advisory Board members.
- **Promotion and Outreach:** The Editor-in-Chief represents the journal to the academic community, promotes its visibility and reputation, and fosters collaborations with authors, reviewers, and institutions.

2. Executive Editorial Board Responsibilities:

- **Strategic Planning:** The Executive Editorial Board assists the Editor-in-Chief in setting strategic goals and objectives for the journal, ensuring its continued growth and development.
- **Editorial Policy Development:** The Executive Editorial Board participates in the formulation and revision of editorial policies, including peer review guidelines, author instructions, and ethical standards.
- **Peer Review Management:** Members of the Executive Editorial Board may serve as handling editors or oversee specific sections of the journal, coordinating the peer review process and ensuring timely and constructive feedback to authors.

- **Editorial Decision Support:** The Executive Editorial Board provides advice and support to the Editor-in-Chief in making editorial decisions, especially in cases of contentious or complex manuscripts.
- **Quality Control:** The Executive Editorial Board monitors the quality and consistency of published content, identifying areas for improvement and implementing measures to enhance the journal's overall quality.
- **Community Engagement:** Members of the Executive Editorial Board may represent the journal at conferences, seminars, and other academic events, engaging with the research community and soliciting feedback and input.

B: Guest Editors' Responsibilities of IJSS

Guest editors play a significant role in the editorial process of an international journal, typically overseeing a special issue or thematic collection. Here are the key responsibilities of guest editors:

1. **Theme Selection:** Guest editors are responsible for selecting a relevant and timely theme or topic for the special issue in consultation with the journal's editorial board. The theme should align with the journal's scope and objectives.
2. **Invitation of Contributions:** Guest editors solicit submissions from researchers, scholars, and experts in the field, inviting them to contribute original research articles, reviews, or other relevant content to the special issue.
3. **Peer Review Management:** Guest editors oversee the peer review process for submissions to the special issue, ensuring that manuscripts are sent for review to qualified experts in the field. They may handle the peer review process themselves or delegate this task to members of the journal's editorial board.
4. **Decision Making:** Guest editors make editorial decisions on submitted manuscripts based on the recommendations of peer reviewers and in accordance with the journal's policies and guidelines. They decide whether to accept, reject, or request revisions for manuscripts.
5. **Quality Assurance:** Guest editors ensure the quality and integrity of the content published in the special issue, maintaining high standards of scholarship, accuracy, and relevance. They may provide feedback and guidance to authors to improve the clarity and rigor of their submissions.
6. **Timely Publication:** Guest editors work closely with the journal's editorial team to ensure that the special issue is published in a timely manner according to the agreed-upon schedule. They coordinate with authors, reviewers, and production staff to meet deadlines and resolve any potential delays.
7. **Editorial Integrity:** Guest editors uphold ethical standards and integrity throughout the editorial process, ensuring that submissions undergo rigorous peer review and adhere to ethical guidelines regarding authorship, plagiarism, and conflicts of interest.
8. **Promotion and Outreach:** Guest editors actively promote the special issue to the academic community, raising awareness of the theme and highlighting the contributions of authors. They may organize related events, such as conferences or symposia, to further disseminate the research findings.

9. **Communication and Collaboration:** Guest editors maintain effective communication with authors, reviewers, editors, and the journal's editorial office throughout the editorial process. They collaborate closely with the journal's editorial team to address any issues or concerns that may arise.

C: Authors' Responsibilities of IJSS

Authors have several important responsibilities when submitting their work to an international journal. These responsibilities help maintain the integrity, quality, and ethical standards of the publication process. Here are the key responsibilities of authors:

1. **Originality and Plagiarism:** Authors must ensure that their submitted work is original and has not been published elsewhere. They should properly cite and acknowledge the work of others, avoiding plagiarism in all its forms.
2. **Authorship and Contributions:** Authors should accurately list all individuals who have made significant contributions to the research and the preparation of the manuscript as co-authors. They should also disclose the roles of each co-author in the research and writing process.
3. **Data Integrity and Accuracy:** Authors are responsible for the accuracy and integrity of the data presented in their manuscript. They should provide detailed descriptions of the methods used and ensure that the results are presented honestly and transparently.
4. **Ethical Considerations:** Authors must adhere to ethical standards in their research, including obtaining necessary approvals for studies involving human or animal subjects, and obtaining informed consent from participants when applicable.
5. **Conflict of Interest Disclosure:** Authors should disclose any potential conflicts of interest that could influence the interpretation or presentation of their research findings. This includes financial conflicts, personal relationships, or affiliations with organizations that may have a vested interest in the research.
6. **Acknowledgment of Funding:** Authors should acknowledge any financial support or funding received for the research and publication of the manuscript. This includes grants, scholarships, or sponsorships that have contributed to the work.
7. **Compliance with Journal Guidelines:** Authors should carefully read and follow the submission guidelines provided by the journal. This includes formatting requirements, word limits, citation style, and any other instructions for authors.
8. **Review and Approval:** Before submission, authors should carefully review the manuscript to ensure its accuracy, clarity, and adherence to journal guidelines. All co-authors should have the opportunity to review and approve the final version of the manuscript before submission.
9. **Timely Response to Editors:** Authors should respond promptly to any requests for revisions, additional information, or clarification from the journal's editors or peer reviewers. Timely communication can help expedite the publication process.
10. **Adherence to Ethical Standards:** Authors should adhere to ethical standards throughout the publication process, including responding to inquiries from editors or publishers regarding potential misconduct or ethical breaches.

D: Reviewers' Responsibilities of IJSS

Reviewers play a crucial role in maintaining the quality, integrity, and credibility of scholarly publications in international journals. Their responsibilities include:

1. **Confidentiality:** Reviewers must treat all manuscripts they receive for review as confidential documents. They should not disclose any information about the manuscript or its content to anyone without the explicit permission of the journal's editors.
2. **Objectivity and Impartiality:** Reviewers should evaluate manuscripts objectively and provide constructive feedback based on the quality, clarity, and significance of the research. Personal biases or conflicts of interest should not influence their assessment.
3. **Timeliness:** Reviewers should promptly respond to invitations to review and complete their reviews within the agreed-upon timeframe. Timely reviews help expedite the publication process and ensure that authors receive feedback in a timely manner.
4. **Expertise and Competence:** Reviewers should possess the necessary expertise and knowledge to evaluate the manuscript effectively. If a reviewer feels unqualified to assess certain aspects of the manuscript, they should notify the journal's editors promptly.
5. **Ethical Conduct:** Reviewers should conduct their reviews ethically and adhere to the journal's ethical guidelines. They should report any potential ethical concerns, such as plagiarism, duplicate publication, or undisclosed conflicts of interest, to the journal's editors.
6. **Constructive Feedback:** Reviewers should provide constructive, specific, and unbiased feedback to help authors improve their manuscripts. They should highlight strengths and weaknesses, identify areas for improvement, and suggest revisions or clarifications where necessary.
7. **Clarity and Transparency:** Reviewers should express their opinions clearly and provide justification for their recommendations. Transparent and well-reasoned reviews help authors understand the basis for editorial decisions and improve the quality of their work.
8. **Respectful Communication:** Reviewers should communicate their feedback and criticisms respectfully, avoiding derogatory or inflammatory language. Criticism should be focused on the manuscript's content and not directed at the authors personally.
9. **Adherence to Journal Policies:** Reviewers should familiarize themselves with the journal's policies and guidelines for peer review. They should follow the journal's formatting requirements, citation style, and any other instructions provided by the editors.
10. **Conflict of Interest Disclosure:** Reviewers should disclose any potential conflicts of interest that could bias their evaluation of the manuscript. This includes financial, professional, or personal relationships with the authors or institutions involved in the research.