

American Educational Research Journal

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Submission guidelines



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Please read the guidelines in full before submitting your manuscript. Manuscripts not conforming to these guidelines may be returned.

Submit Manuscript 

There are no fees payable to submit or publish in this journal.

All manuscripts for *AERJ* should be submitted electronically at <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/aerj>. Manuscript submissions by e-mail are *not* accepted.

Please carefully review the guidelines below. For specific questions or inquiries, please contact the editorial office at: AERJ@aera.net

Additional information can also be found at: [Sage Manuscript Submission Guidelines](#).

General Information

AERJ operates on a double-anonymize review policy; once your manuscript is received, it will first be read by the editors to determine whether it merits being sent out for review to a panel of anonymize reviewers.

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Manuscript Criteria

The fitness of a manuscript for publication in *AERJ* is carefully reviewed based on each of the following dimensions:

1. Scope/relevance to the field of education
 2. Conceptual framework (connections to relevant constructs in literature)
 3. Methods
 - Appropriateness to questions
 - Adequate description of methods (including data collection, description of samples, and analysis)
 - Rigor of methods
1. Findings/conclusions are literature or data-based
 2. Overall contribution to the field
 3. Writing style/composition/clarity

Research Ethics and Publication Standards

Researchers submitting manuscripts should consult the [Standards for Research Conduct](#) in AERA publications and the [AERA Code of Ethics](#).

Submission Preparation Checklist

As part of the submission process, please confirm your submission's compliance with the requirements below. Submissions that do not adhere to these guidelines may be returned to the author(s).

APA Style

All submissions should follow the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 7th edition

Title page file

Supply complete contact information for all authors on a separately uploaded title page file including: author name(s), affiliation, complete street address, e-mail address, and phone number.

Please clearly indicate the corresponding author who will be handling the communications with the editors, approving final proofs, and working with the association's publications team should the manuscript be accepted for publication.

Length and Formatting



The main document of the submitted manuscript may not exceed 50 double-spaced pages *including* all tables, figures, notes, and references. Pages must be typed for 8½" x 11" paper with 1" margins on all sides and double-spaced using 12-point type, preferably Times New Roman. Word files and LaTeX files (submitted with the corresponding PDF) are acceptable.

Subheads should be used at reasonable intervals to break the monotony of text.

Pages should be numbered consecutively.

Abbreviations and acronyms should be spelled out at first mention unless found as entries in their abbreviated form in Merriam-Webster's Tenth Collegiate Dictionary (e.g., "IQ" needs no explanation).

Appendices

Appendices can be considered as part of the manuscript only if, with their inclusion, the submitted manuscript is still within the maximum page limit of 50 double-spaced pages.

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If the inclusion of appendices or other materials exceeds the manuscript's 50 page limit, these files will not be included as part of the print publication, but will be made available separately online.

You must upload these files as a separate document in the system as supplementary files. Please indicate "ONLINE SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS" at the top of the uploaded document as a courtesy note to the editors and reviewers. All online supplementary materials should also be clearly labeled with "online" in the file name.

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Examples of what is not acceptable:

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- “The data for this study come from the National Magnet School Survey (Author, 2018).”

Examples of what is acceptable:

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 - **You would then, in this particular instance, include the author’s unanonymized reference in the references list*
 - **Explanation:** To reiterate our general rule that manuscripts should not provide clues as to author identity.
- “The data for this study come from a national survey of magnet schools.”
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- Cite work published by the author or co-authors that are referenced in the text as "Author" and the year of citation (e.g., Author, 2018), and place in the first position of the parentheses when they are cited in the text.
 - **Example:** “Students’ disengagement has increasingly been linked to the quality of their classroom settings (Authors, 2018; Anderson, 2015; Wentzel, 1998).”
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Fredricks, J. A., Blumenfeld, P. C., & Paris, A. H. (2004). School engagement: Potential of the concept, state of the evidence. *Review of Educational Research*, 74, 59–109.

- When submitting a revised version of a manuscript, please be sure to submit an anonymized version of your response letter detailing changes made to the manuscript, as this letter will be accessed by reviewers.

Abstract and keywords

All manuscripts should include an abstract of 100–120 words. Please also include a few keywords or terms that researchers will use to find your article in indexes and databases. Articles in AERA journals typically list 3 to 5 keywords.

Notes

Notes are for explanations or amplifications of textual material. They are distracting to readers and expensive to set and should be avoided whenever possible. They should be typed as normal text at the end of the text section of the manuscript rather than as part of the footnote or endnote feature of a computer program and should be numbered consecutively throughout the article.

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Tables, figures, and illustrations

The purpose of tables and figures is to present data to the reader in a clear and unambiguous manner. Figures and tables should be keyed to the text. Tables should each be typed on a separate sheet and included at the end of the manuscript (after the references). Tables will be typeset and should be editable (i.e., submitted as Word or Excel files).

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The [Reviewer Guidelines](#) summarize the criteria for the manuscript review.

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