

Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

Web of Science Open House Sessions

Web of Science

- Web of Science™ is the world's most trusted publisher-independent global citation database.
- We capture, index and link every piece of metadata for all items in the Web of Science Core Collection.
- We use a uniquely selective and robust evaluation and curation process by a team of expert in-house editors.
- Our principles: **Objectivity, selectivity** and **collection dynamics**

The Web of Science Core Collection

At the heart of the Web of Science platform

Web of Science Core Collection

SCIE

SSCI

AHCI

ESCI

BKCI

CPCI

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



Conducted by a team of expert in-house editors.



Not affiliated to publishers or research institutions.



Each editor focuses on specific subject categories, getting a deep knowledge of the publishing landscape in that field.



Journal data and information are collected by the editors independently rather than relying on data provided by the publishers.



We do not use algorithmic approaches or delegate any editorial decisions on the research community.



All editors use the same set of **24 quality and 4 impact criteria** to evaluate all journals.



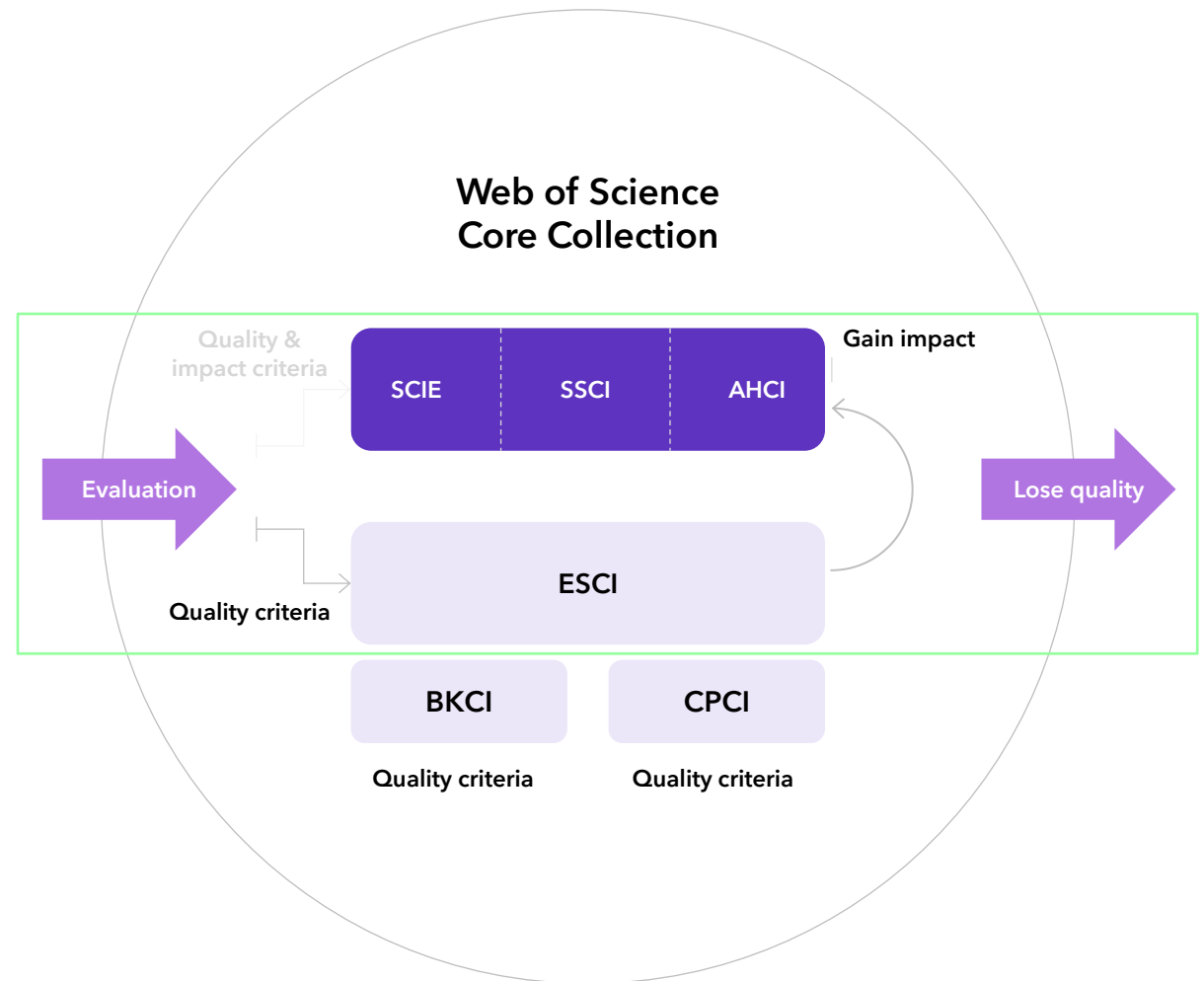
Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

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

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



Journal Evaluation Process

Quality & Impact



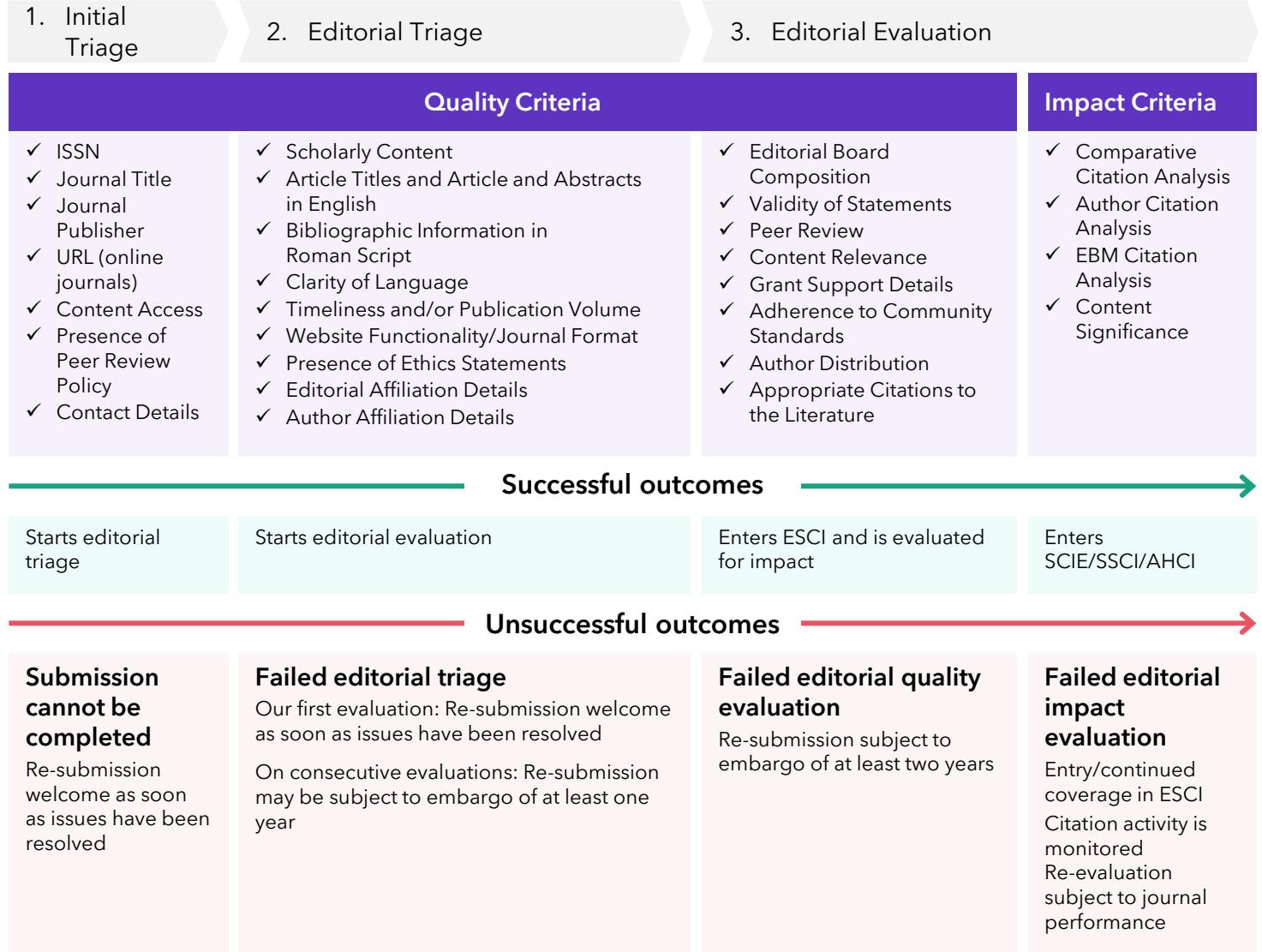
28
selection criteria



24
quality criteria to select for editorial rigor and publishing best practice



4
impact criteria to select for the most impactful journals



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



ISSN



Journal Title



Journal Publisher



URL (online journals)



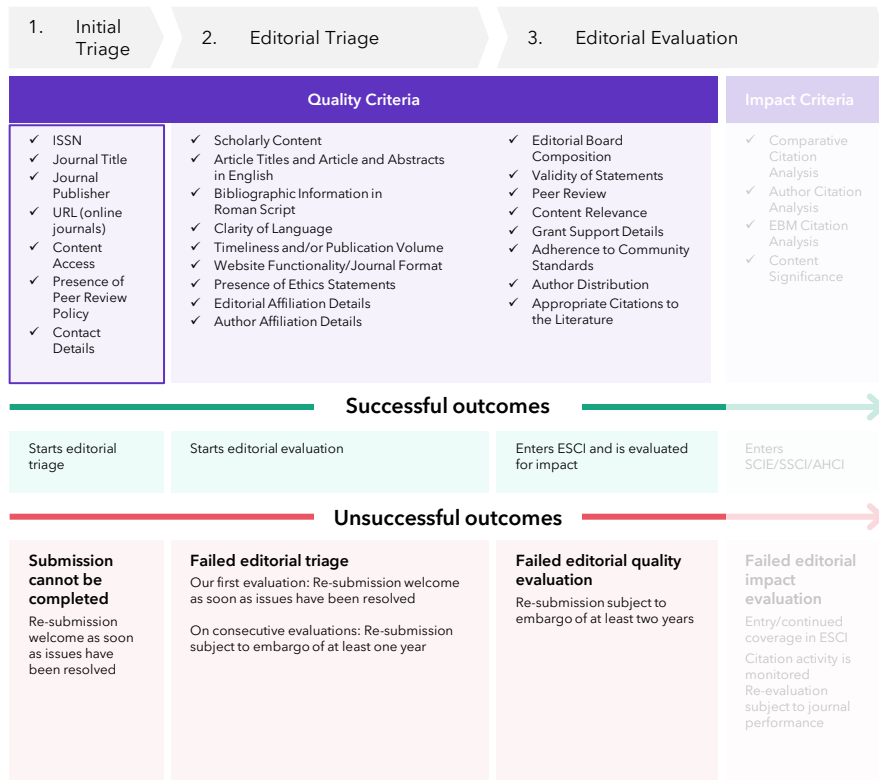
Content Access



Presence of Peer Review Policy



Contact Details



Initial Triage

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)



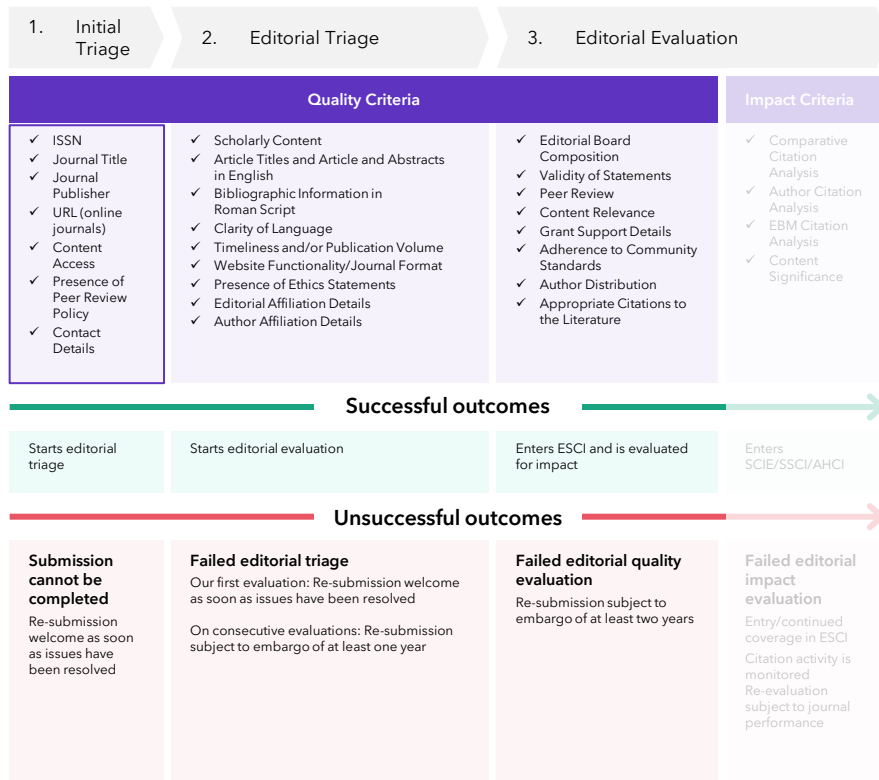
Content Access



Presence of Peer Review Policy



Contact Details



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)



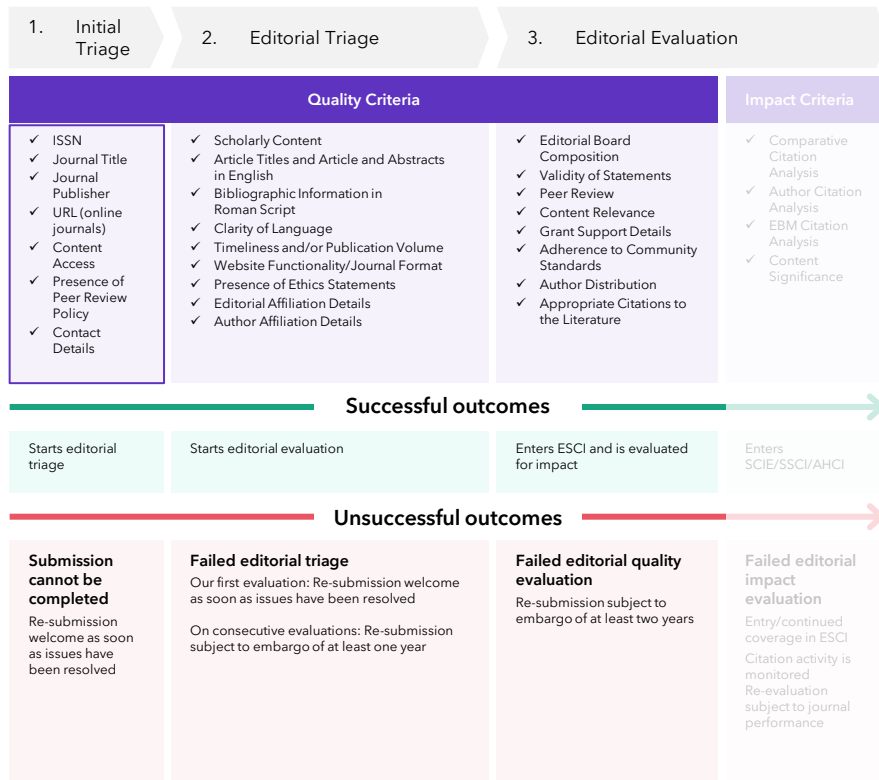
Content Access



Presence of Peer Review Policy



Contact Details



Initial Triage ✓

Editorial Triage

Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

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



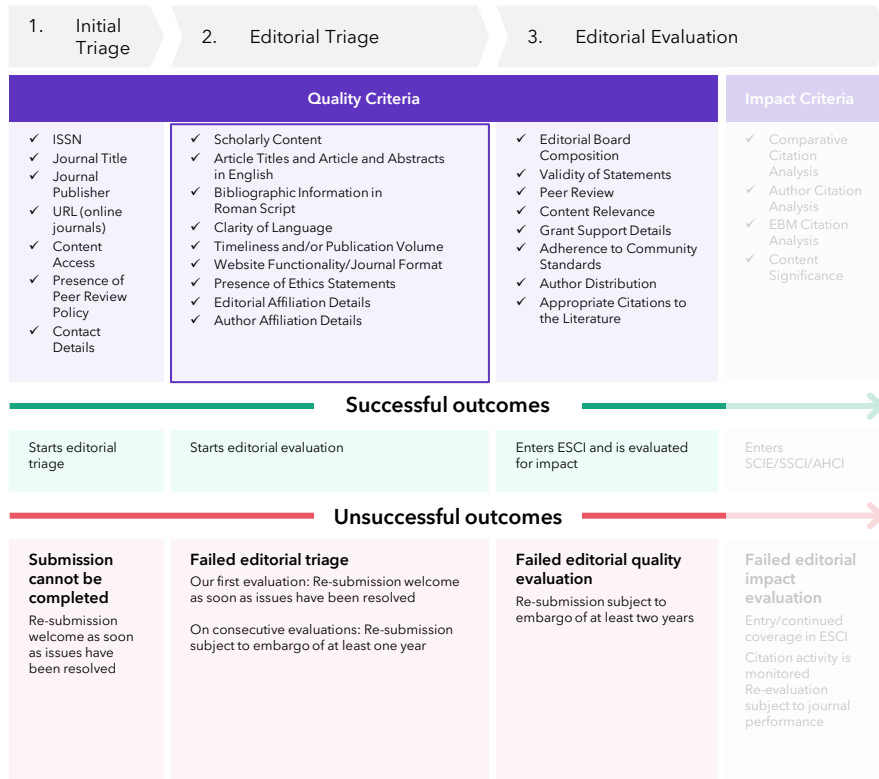
Presence of Ethics Statements



Editorial Affiliation Details



Author Affiliation Details



Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

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



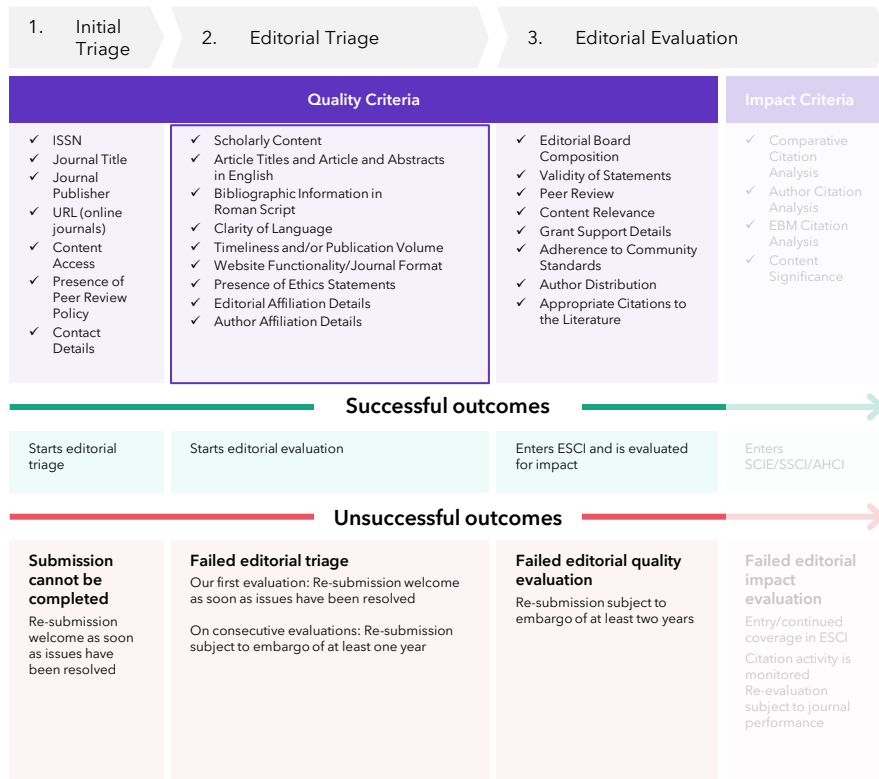
Presence of Ethics Statements



Editorial Affiliation Details



Author Affiliation Details



Initial Triage

Editorial Triage ➤ **First evaluation:** No embargo on re-submission
Consecutive evaluations: 1-year embargo on resubmission

Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

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



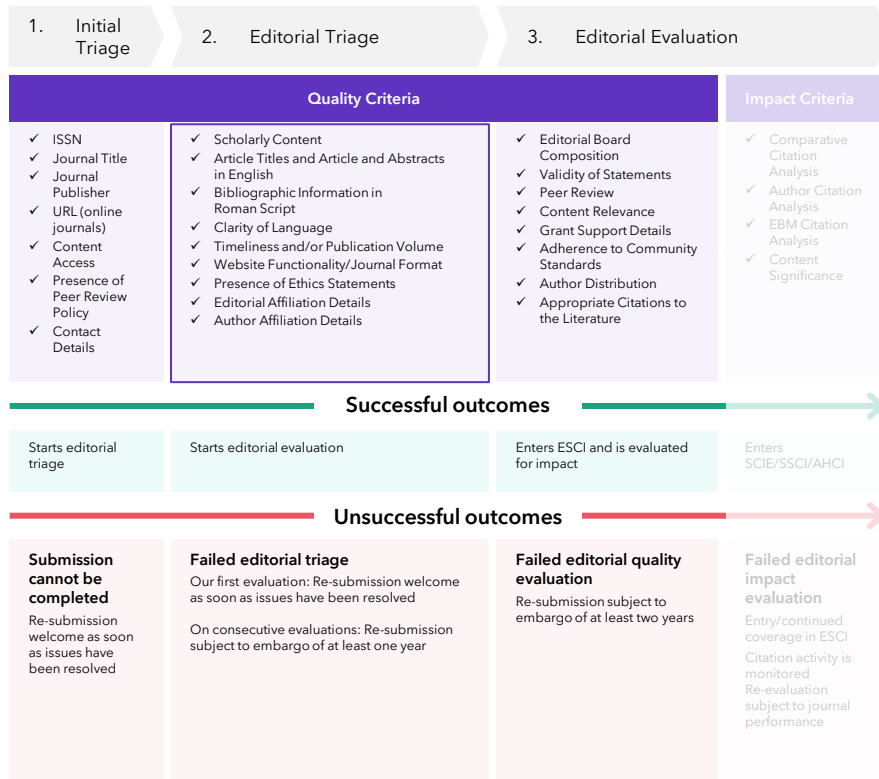
Presence of Ethics Statements



Editorial Affiliation Details



Author Affiliation Details



Initial Triage

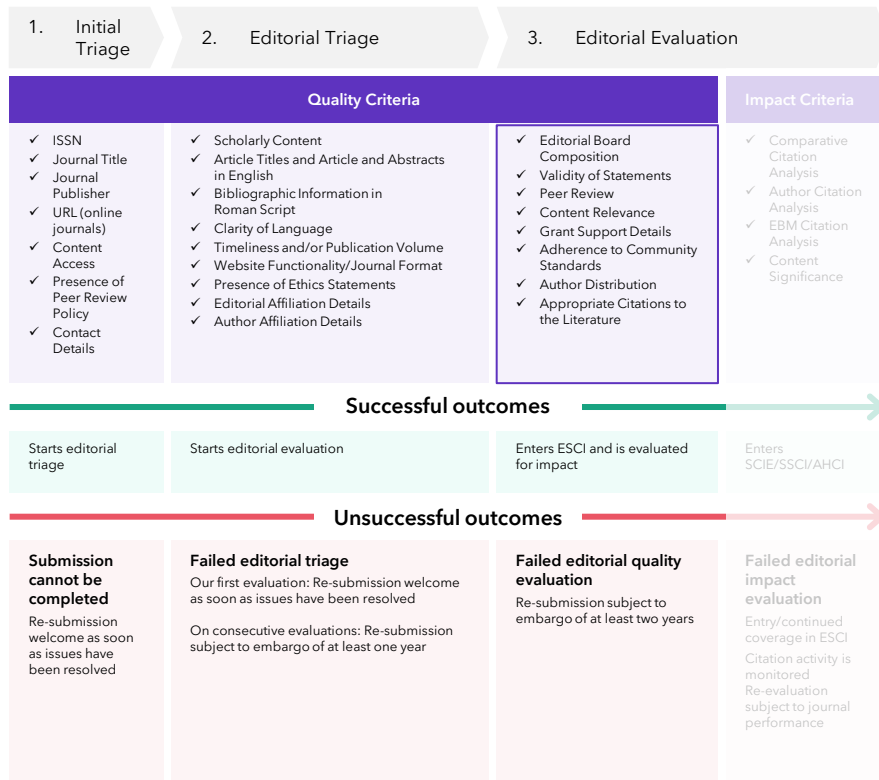
Editorial Triage ✓

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



Initial Triage

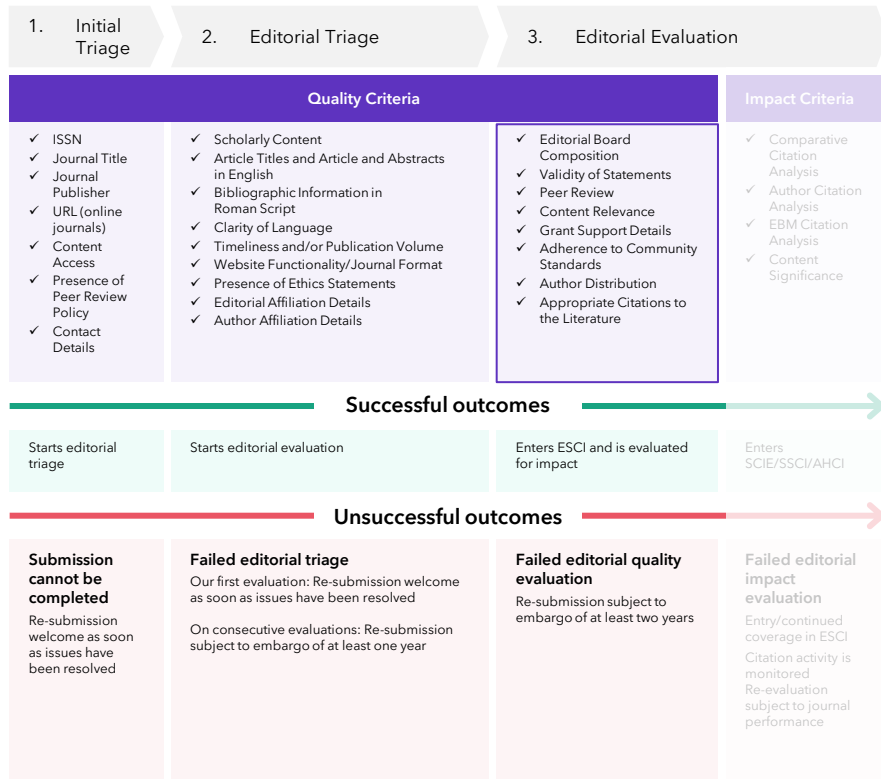
Editorial Triage

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



Initial Triage

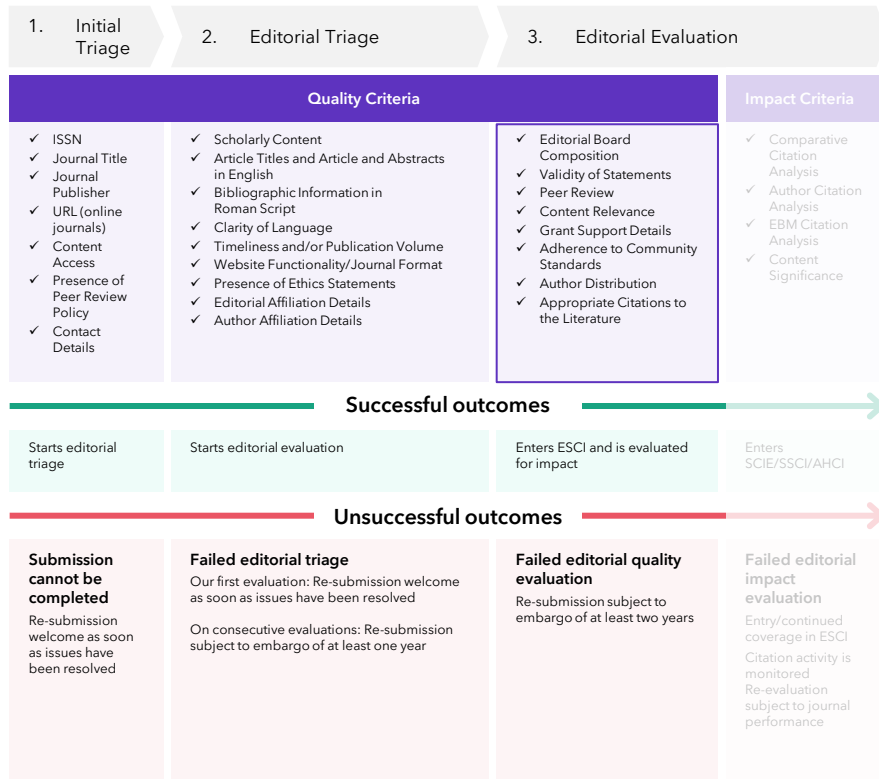
Editorial Triage

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.

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

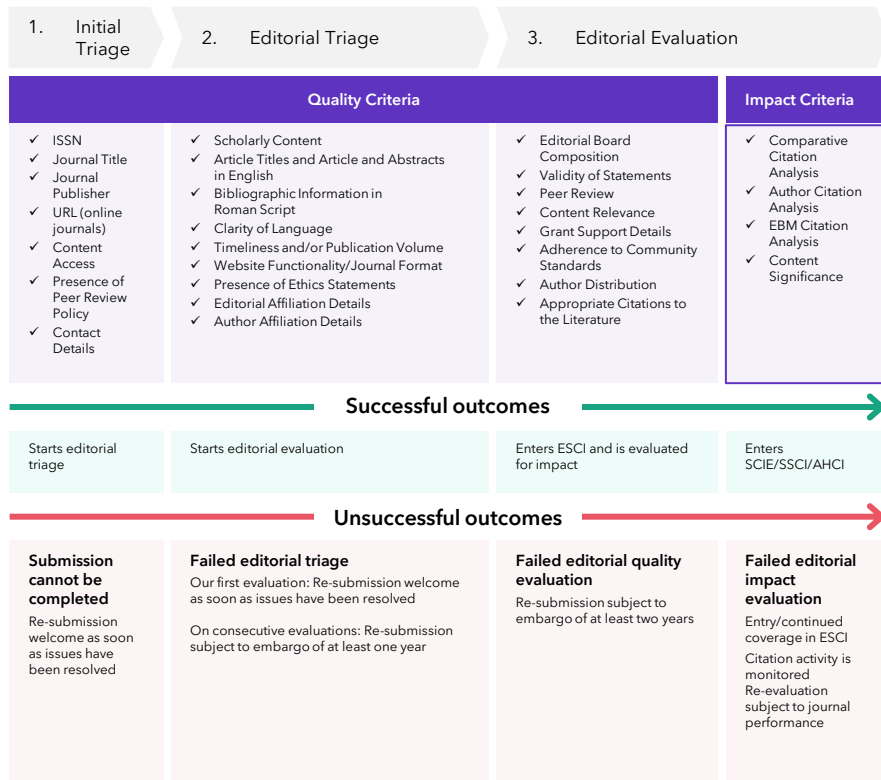


Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

Editorial Evaluation (Quality) ✓

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)



Criteria at the **Impact** evaluation step are designed to select the **most influential journals** in the field. **Citation activity** and uniqueness of the journal **content** are the main indicators.



Comparative Citation Analysis



Author Citation Analysis



EBM Citation Analysis



Content Significance

Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

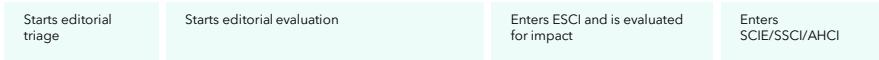
Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

1. Initial Triage 2. Editorial Triage 3. Editorial Evaluation

Quality Criteria			Impact Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ISSN ✓ Journal Title ✓ Journal Publisher ✓ URL (online journals) ✓ Content Access ✓ Presence of Peer Review Policy ✓ Contact Details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Editorial Board Composition ✓ Validity of Statements ✓ Peer Review ✓ Content Relevance ✓ Grant Support Details ✓ Adherence to Community Standards ✓ Author Distribution ✓ Appropriate Citations to the Literature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Comparative Citation Analysis ✓ Author Citation Analysis ✓ EBM Citation Analysis ✓ Content Significance

Successful outcomes →



Unsuccessful outcomes →

<p>Submission cannot be completed</p> <p>Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved</p>	<p>Failed editorial triage</p> <p>Our first evaluation: Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved</p> <p>On consecutive evaluations: Re-submission subject to embargo of at least one year</p>	<p>Failed editorial quality evaluation</p> <p>Re-submission subject to embargo of at least two years</p>	<p>Failed editorial impact evaluation</p> <p>Entry/continued coverage in ESCI</p> <p>Citation activity is monitored</p> <p>Re-evaluation subject to journal performance</p>
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Initial Triage ✓

Editorial Triage ✓

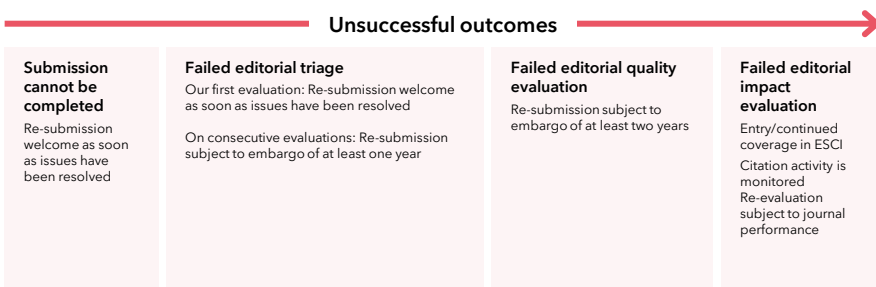
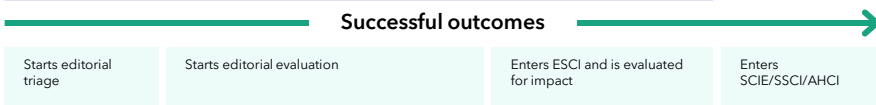
Editorial Evaluation (Quality) ✓

Editorial Evaluation (Impact) ✓



1. Initial Triage 2. Editorial Triage 3. Editorial Evaluation

Quality Criteria			Impact Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ISSN ✓ Journal Title ✓ Journal Publisher ✓ URL (online journals) ✓ Content Access ✓ Presence of Peer Review Policy ✓ Contact Details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Editorial Board Composition ✓ Validity of Statements ✓ Peer Review ✓ Content Relevance ✓ Grant Support Details ✓ Adherence to Community Standards ✓ Author Distribution ✓ Appropriate Citations to the Literature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Comparative Citation Analysis ✓ Author Citation Analysis ✓ EBM Citation Analysis ✓ Content Significance



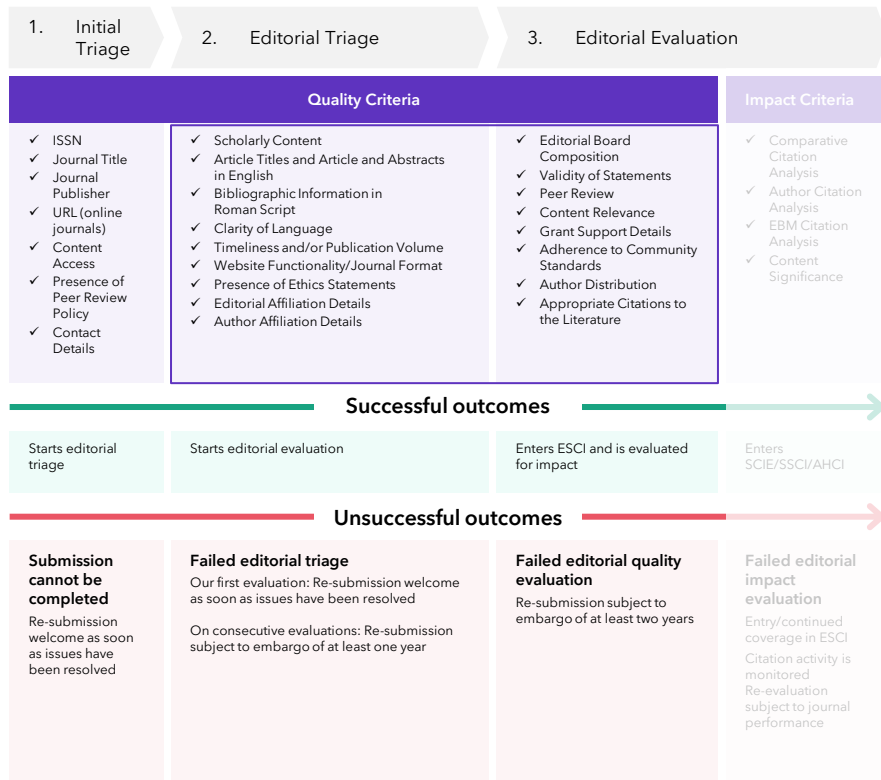
Initial Triage ✓

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.

Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

Web of Science Publisher Portal

Publisher

+ Submit Journal

Journals (103)

Search title/ISSN

Journal title	Status	ISSN	E-ISSN	Date Submitted
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 07, 2019
[blurred]	Pending	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 04, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 04, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 04, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 03, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 03, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 03, 2019
[blurred]	Accepted	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 02, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 02, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 02, 2019
[blurred]	Rejected	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 01, 2019

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

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New Evaluation Request

Publisher

Steps

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

Progress

Step 1 of 6

Hints

Important Note: ✕

- 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.

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

This journal does not have an online ISSN

[Next](#) →

Changes to the Journal Citation Reports

The Journal Impact Factor

The JIF is a journal-level metric developed for responsible use in journal management.

Article citation performance as a part of scholarly assessment is not reflected in the JIF.

We recommend this recent [ISI Global Research Report](#) related to this topic.



Starting from the 2023 JCR release, **Journal Impact Factors (JIFs)** have been extended to **all Web of Science Core Collection journals**.



In **2023** the **JIF was extended to all journals indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection** and the JIF transitioned from displaying three decimal places to **one decimal place**.



In **2024** we moved from edition-specific category JIF rankings to unified rankings for each one of the science and social science categories, including **journals indexed in SCIE, SSCI and ESCI**.

We did not introduce JIF rankings for the arts and humanities categories. More information in our recent blogposts published in [February](#), [May](#) and [June](#).



We have **evolved the JIF** from an indicator of scholarly impact in the sciences and social sciences to an **indicator of both scholarly impact and trustworthiness** across all disciplines at the journal level.

Read more about the updates to the JCR [here](#).

Conference Proceedings Evaluation Process

1. Initial Triage

2. Editorial Triage

3. Editorial Evaluation

Quality Criteria

- ✓ Proceedings title
- ✓ Proceedings publisher
- ✓ Publication year
- ✓ Conference title, date, location
- ✓ DOIs, paper numbering, or continuous pagination
- ✓ Content access
- ✓ Contact Details

- ✓ Proceedings papers
- ✓ Paper titles and paper abstracts in English
- ✓ Bibliographic Information in Roman Script
- ✓ Clarity of Language
- ✓ Timeliness and/or Publication Volume
- ✓ Website Functionality/Journal Format
- ✓ Editorial policies
- ✓ Aims & scope
- ✓ Editor Affiliation Details
- ✓ Author Affiliation Details
- ✓ Committee Affiliation Details

- ✓ Committee Composition
- ✓ Validity of Statements
- ✓ Peer Review
- ✓ Content Relevance
- ✓ Sponsorship Details
- ✓ Adherence to Community Standards
- ✓ Author Distribution
- ✓ Appropriate Citations to the Literature

Successful outcomes

Starts editorial triage

Starts editorial evaluation

Enters CPCI

Unsuccessful outcomes

Failed Initial Triage

Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved (where possible)

Failed editorial triage

Re-submission will not be considered

Failed editorial evaluation

Re-submission will not be considered

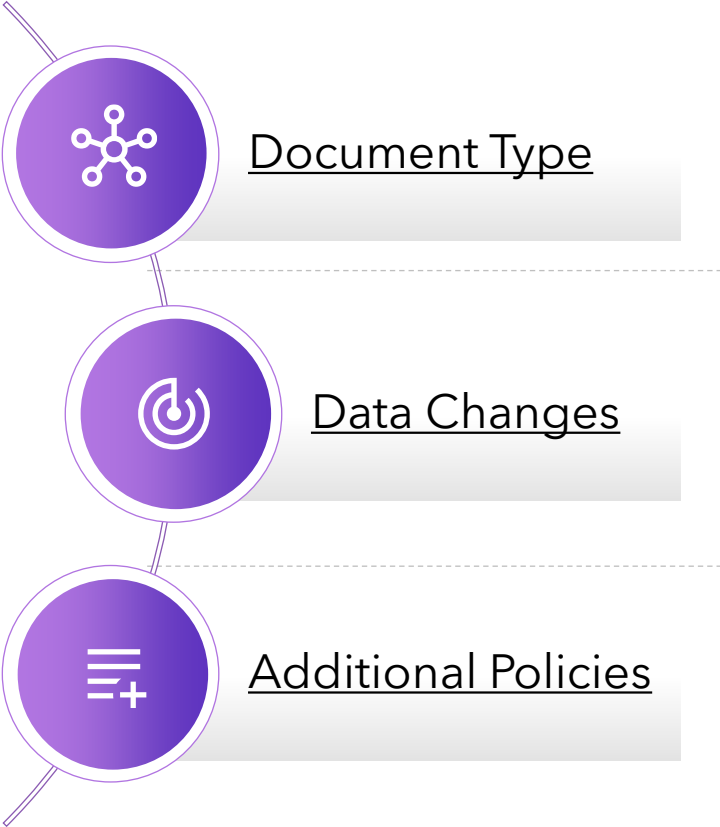
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selection criteria to select for editorial rigor and publishing best practice

Proceedings selected for CPCI **must pass all** criteria

Conference features that impact quality and relevance are also considered during the evaluation

More information on our website



[Web of Science](#) • [Web of Science Core Collection](#)

Content collection and indexing process

[Content collection and indexing](#)

[Onboarding](#)

[Receipting and indexing](#)

[Document types](#)

[Early access](#)

[Data and journal changes](#)

A [robust editorial selection process](#), continuous curation, and meticulous indexing make Web of Science Core Collection™ the world's most trusted publisher-independent global citation database. Guided by principles of objectivity, selectivity, and collection dynamics, our expert team of in-house editors evaluate and select titles for inclusion in Web of Science Core Collection. The content operations team then receives and indexes journal issues, books, and conference proceedings, carefully capturing each piece of metadata and enriching the publication and citation data throughout the process.

Visit each section to learn more about our rigorous content and indexing policies.

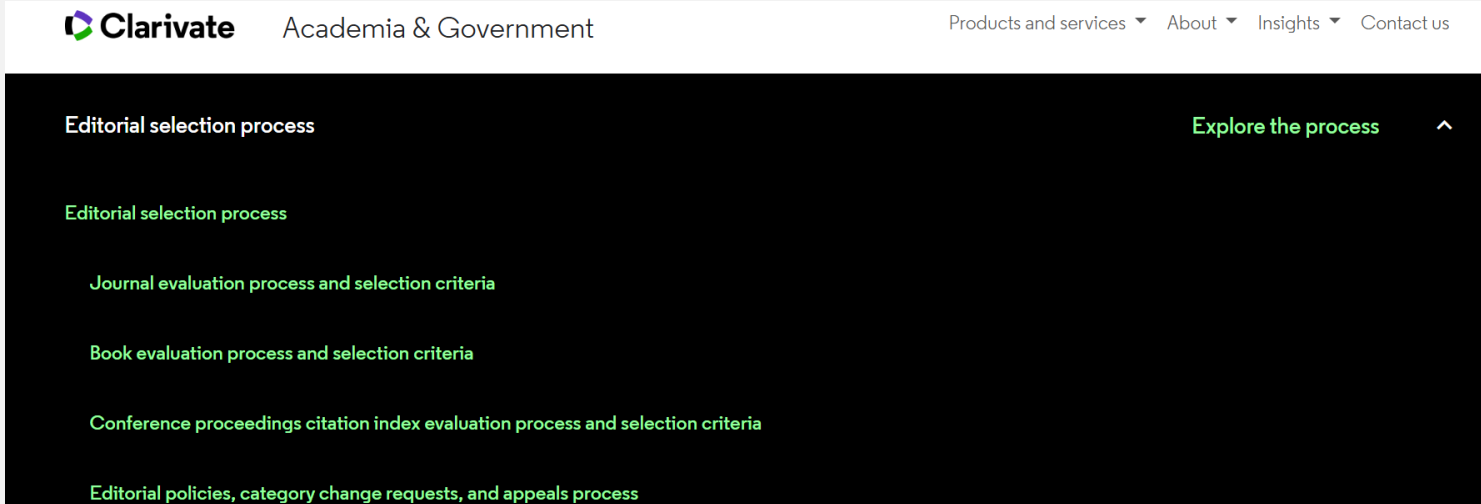
<https://clarivate.com/academia-government/scientific-and-academic-research/research-discovery-and-referencing/web-of-science/web-of-science-core-collection/content-collection-and-indexing-process>

More information on our website

[Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria](#)

[Web of Science Publisher Portal](#)

[Web of Science Academy](#)



The screenshot shows the Clarivate Academia & Government website. The navigation bar includes the Clarivate logo, the text "Academia & Government", and links for "Products and services", "About", "Insights", and "Contact us". The main content area features a dark background with the following menu items:

- Editorial selection process [Explore the process](#)
- Editorial selection process
 - Journal evaluation process and selection criteria
 - Book evaluation process and selection criteria
 - Conference proceedings citation index evaluation process and selection criteria
 - Editorial policies, category change requests, and appeals process

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



Thank you

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ContentIndexing.Support@clarivate.com

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