How to pass F1000 pre-publication checks

Follow these top tips from our Editorial team to ensure your research is published without delay.
Introduction

All Platforms powered by F1000 run a series of pre-publication checks to ensure submitted research meets our quality and ethical standards. These checks are integral to the F1000 publishing model, enabling our Editorial team to assess the soundness and integrity of the research so it can be published as quickly as possible.

Before submitting to one of our publishing venues, set your research up for success by following these six simple tips from our team.

CHECK #1
Authorship and author affiliation

CHECK #2
Plagiarism

CHECK #3
Data availability

CHECK #4
Ethics

CHECK #5
Article type and reporting

CHECK #6
Language of the article
To publish on an F1000 publishing venue, you must have a formal affiliation with an accredited institution or recognized organization. This means that even if you have not reached a certain level of research-based qualification, such as a PhD or an MD, you can still publish your paper with us. Our Editorial team will verify author affiliations using a range of indicators, including institutional email addresses and website profiles.

At least one author on the article (who should have made a key contribution to the article) must meet these key criteria for it to be suitable for publication.

To publish on a publishing venue associated with a specific funder, you must meet the criteria for publication outlined on the venue’s website.

Our authorship criteria vary for each of our publishing venues, so please always check the ‘Publication Criteria and Authorship’ section of the ‘Policies’ page for the venue you are interested in.

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**CHECK #1:**

**Authorship and author affiliation**

Avoid including extensive quotations from any one source in particular and be mindful of excessive or inappropriate self-citations.

- **David Sadler**
  - F1000 Associate Editor

All articles submitted to our publishing venues must be original, and our team will reject the article if apparent plagiarism, including self-plagiarism, is identified.

If you have any concerns about your article, it may be worth running your article through a plagiarism checker, such as iThenticate, prior to submission.
CHECK #3: Data availability

All our publishing venues have strong open data policies and endorse the FAIR Data Principles. Authors must deposit the dataset(s) underlying their results in an appropriate data repository. The dataset(s) must have a license applied which allows reuse by others (CC0 or CC-BY) and must have a persistent identifier (e.g., a DOI), allocated by a data repository. You must also provide a data availability statement as a section at the end of your article.

Please check the Data Guidelines for the particular venue you are submitting to, as these will outline how to write your Data Availability Statement and list our recommended repositories for the data type.

We recognize that openly sharing data may not always be feasible due to ethical considerations or third-party restrictions. If that is the case, get in touch with our team as we have policies to support this. Your chosen publishing venue will have specific guidance on exceptions to our policy on the Data Guidelines page.

CHECK #4: Ethics and consent

Some articles don’t include any ethical or consent information upon submission. Often, this is because the author does not deem the participant data included in the paper to be sensitive or identifying. Nonetheless, we would still expect the authors to have obtained informed, preferably written, consent, and if ethical approval was waived by a review board, this should be stated in the ethics statement.

Deirbhile McQuillan
F1000 Senior Assistant Editor

All F1000 publishing venues require articles to adhere to the COPE guidelines regarding ethical oversight. If your research involves humans, animals, or plants, you must comply with our Ethical Policies and obtain ethical approval before conducting the research.

Please check the Ethical Policies for the venue you wish to submit to, as different platforms have different requirements. Open Research Europe, for example, has specific requirements regarding the Ethics Statement in the manuscript.
We accept a broad range of traditional and non-traditional article types across the physical and life sciences, engineering, medicine, arts and humanities, and social sciences. Each publishing venue has an Article Guidelines page where you can identify the specific article types available. Ensure you submit your research as the most appropriate article type for maximum impact.

Authors should refer to the specific guidelines for the article type they wish to submit, as each one will have specific stipulations relating to content, format, word count, and more.

CHECK #5: Scope

CHECK #6: Language

Ask a qualified proofreader or colleague to copyedit your article before submitting it to ensure readability and flow. If English is not your first language or you can't find a suitable proofreader, Taylor & Francis offer translation and editing services.

Jessica Torr
F1000 Editorial Lead

Articles should be well-written, and language quality shouldn't impede understanding of the research. If our team thinks an article needs extensive copyediting, they will reject it and alert the author to some professional copyediting services they may wish to consider.
F1000 empowers researchers to publish openly, quickly, and with impact.

F1000's unique open publishing model lets researchers take the lead on what, when, and how to publish research findings.

See why thousands of researchers worldwide are publishing openly with F1000.

WHY PUBLISH WITH F1000?