

# 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

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Conducted by a team of expert in-house editors.

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Not affiliated to publishers or research institutions.

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

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

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

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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

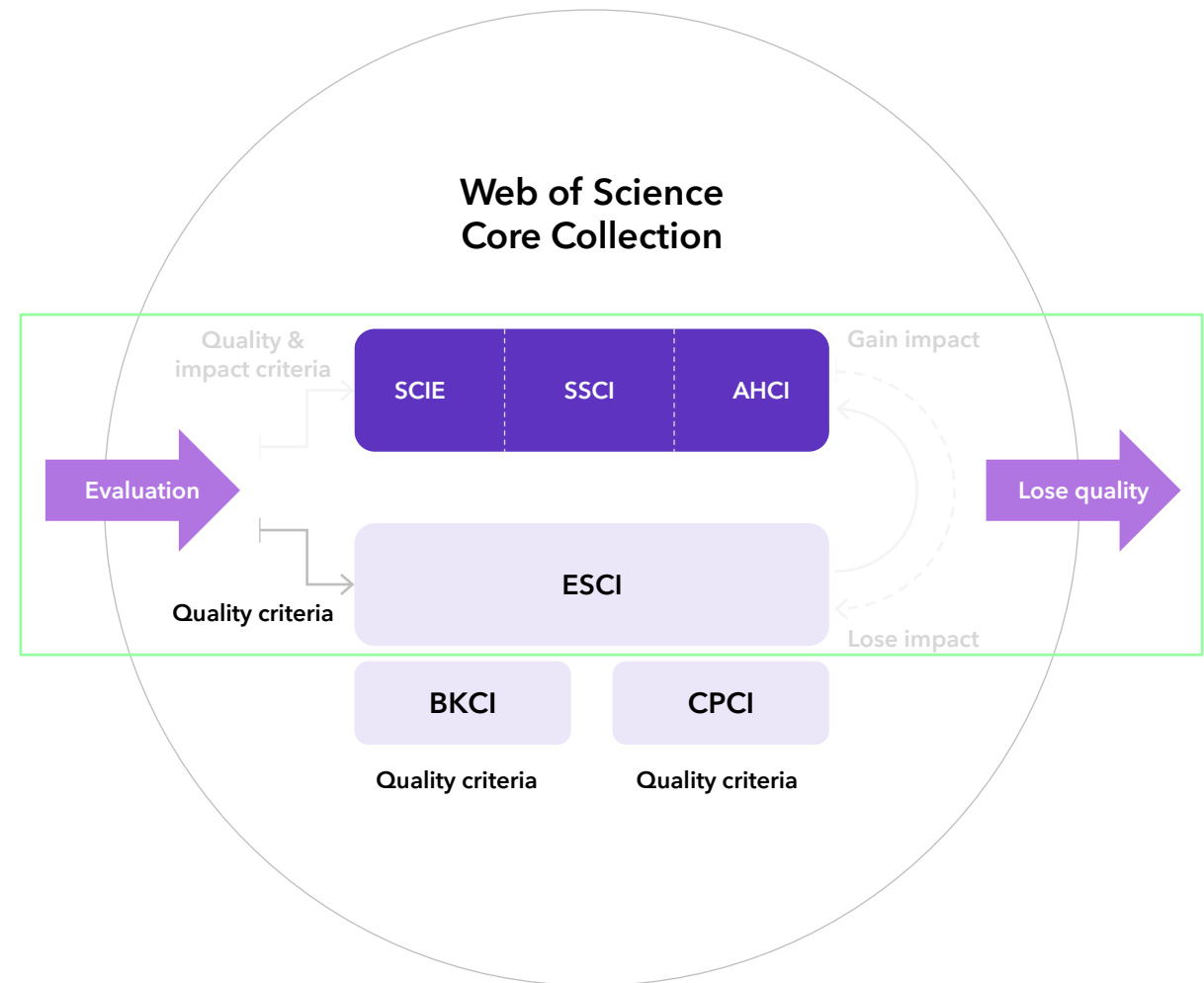
Journals that meet the quality criteria enter ESCI

Journals that meet **quality and impact** criteria enter SCIE, SSCI or AHCI

ESCI journals that gain impact move to SCIE, SSCI or AHCI

SCIE, SSCI and AHCI journals that decrease in impact move to ESCI

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



# Journal Evaluation Process

## Quality & Impact



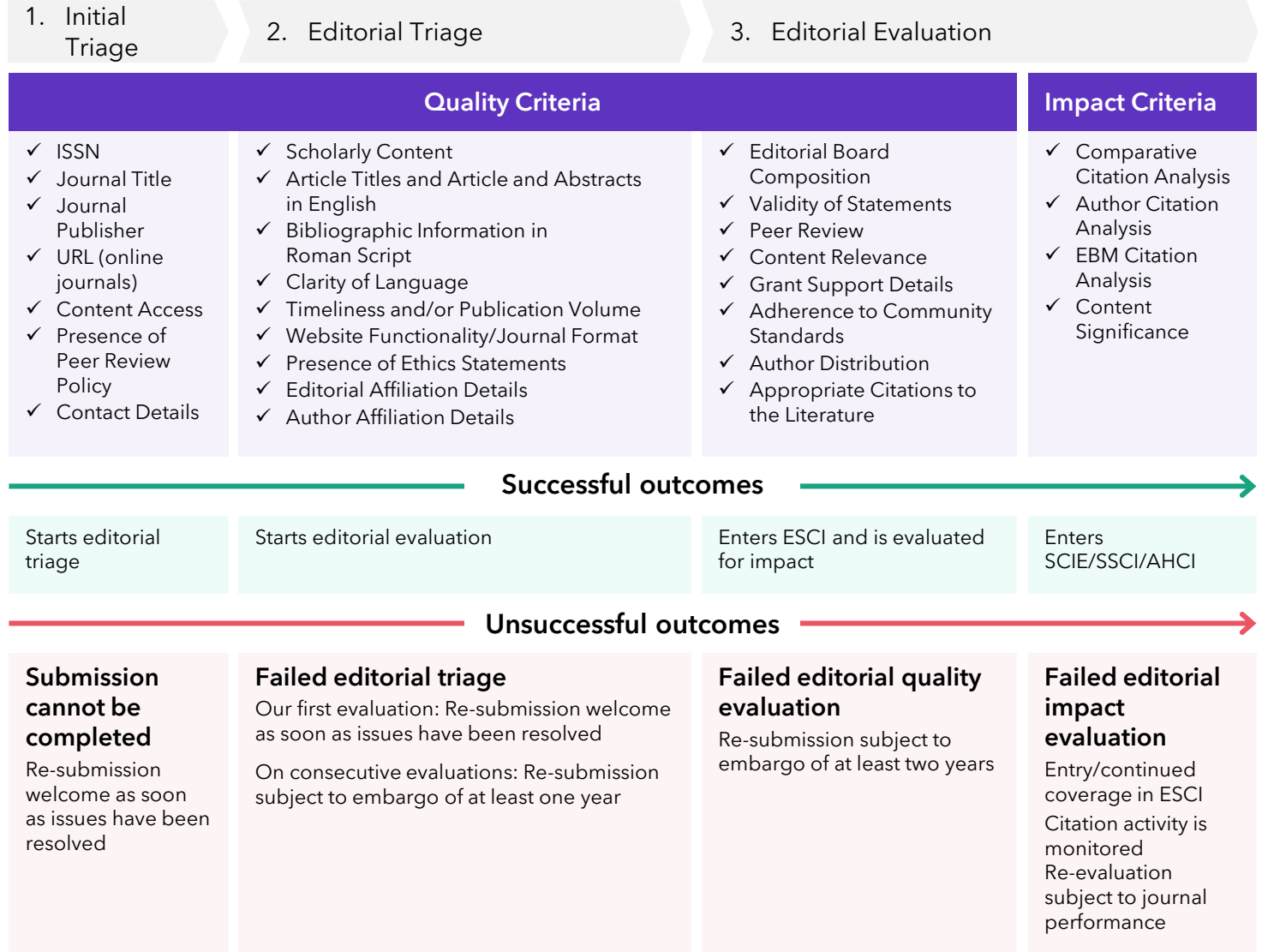
**28**  
selection criteria

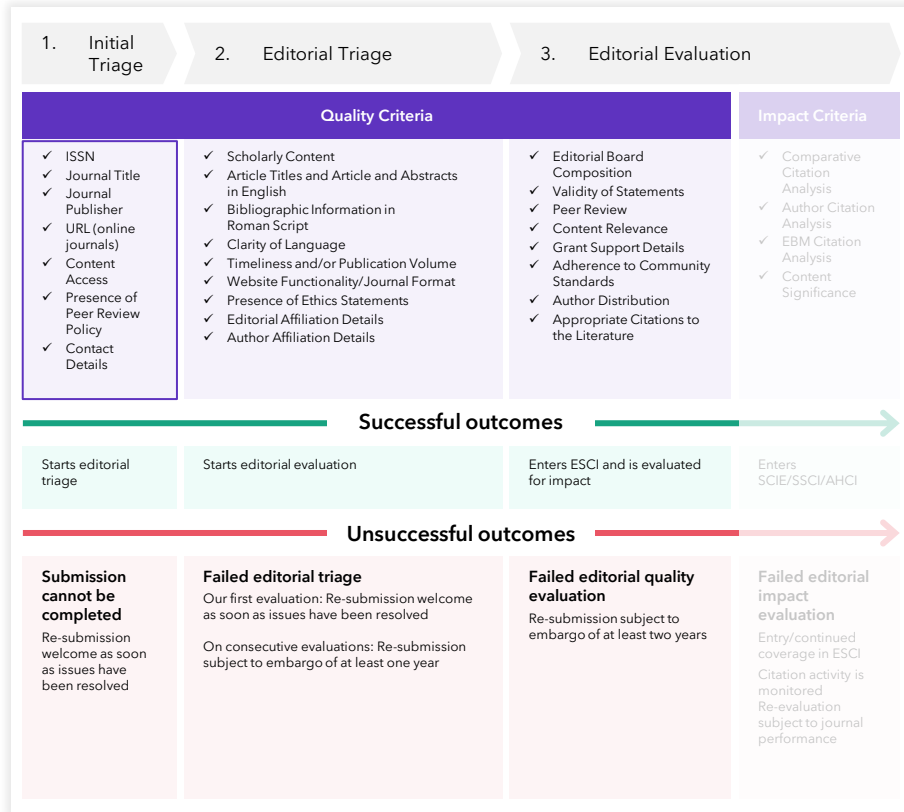


**24**  
quality criteria to select for editorial rigor and publishing best practice



**4**  
impact criteria to select for the most impactful journals





## 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

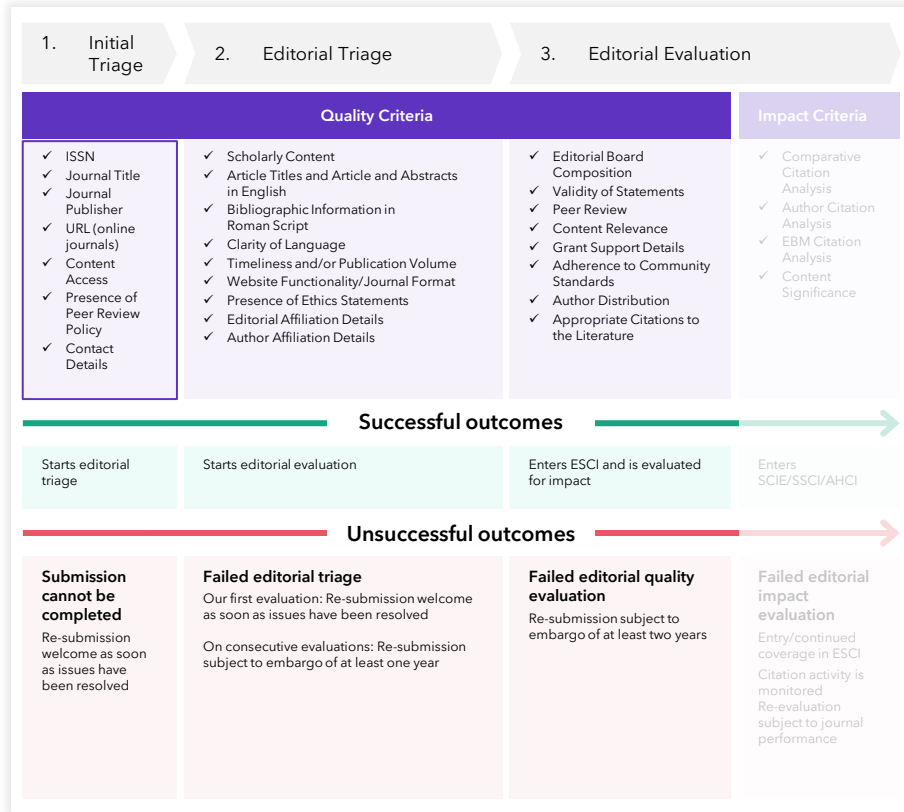


Presence of Peer Review Policy



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

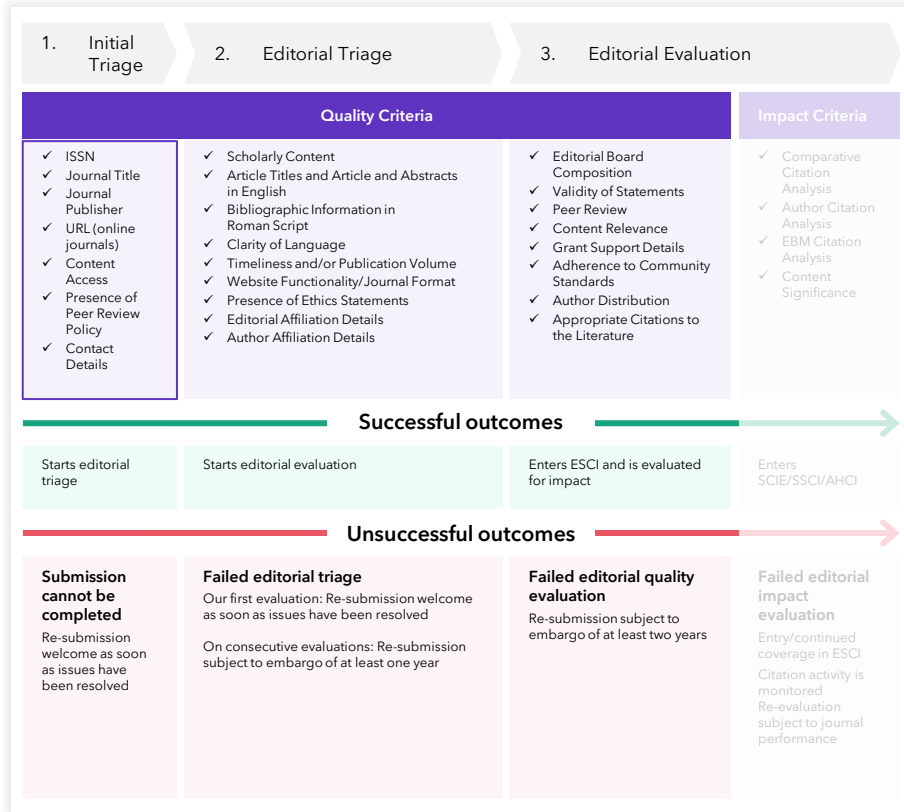


Presence of Peer Review Policy



Contact Details

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



Initial Triage 

Editorial Triage

Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

 ISSN


 Journal Title

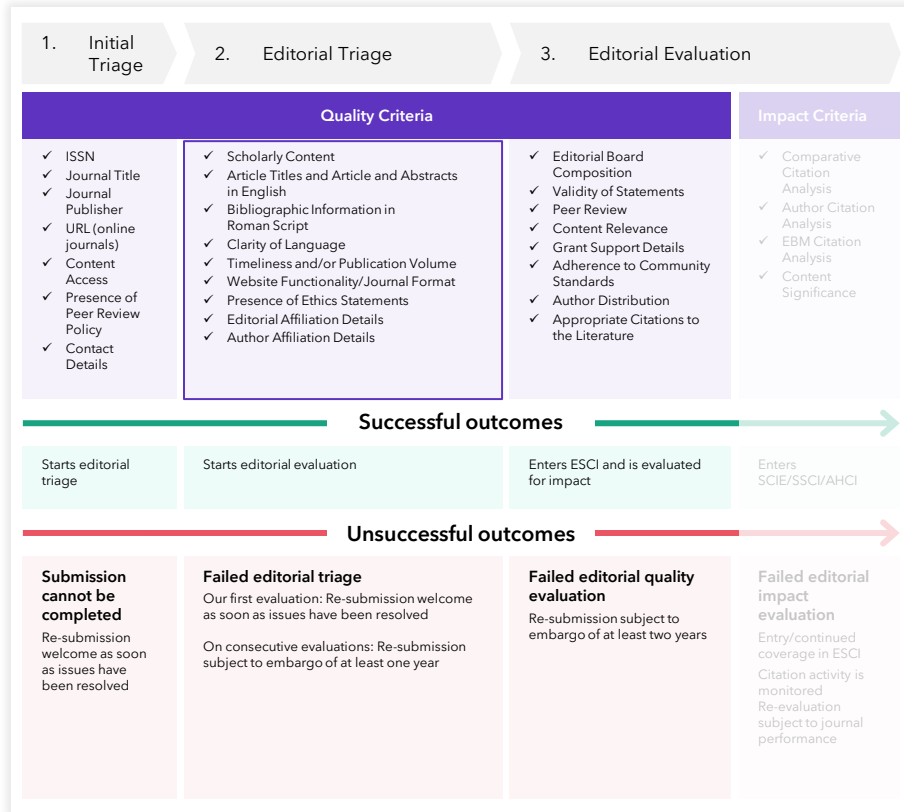
 Journal Publisher

 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



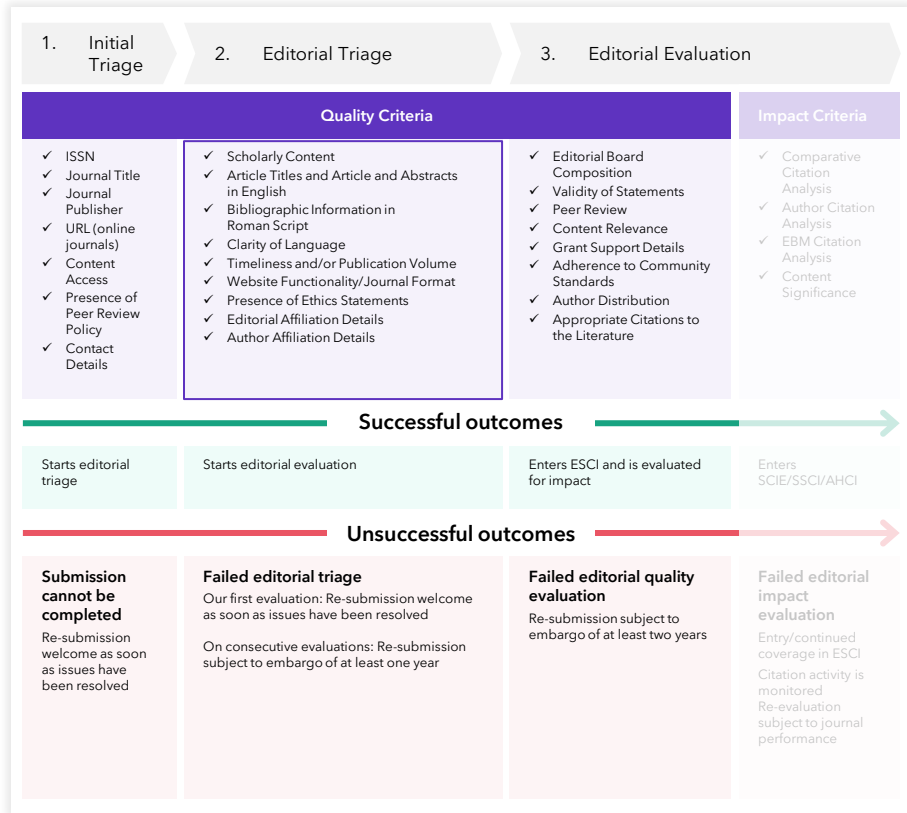
Presence of Ethics Statements



Editorial Affiliation Details



Author Affiliation Details



Initial Triage

**Editorial Triage** ➤ **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



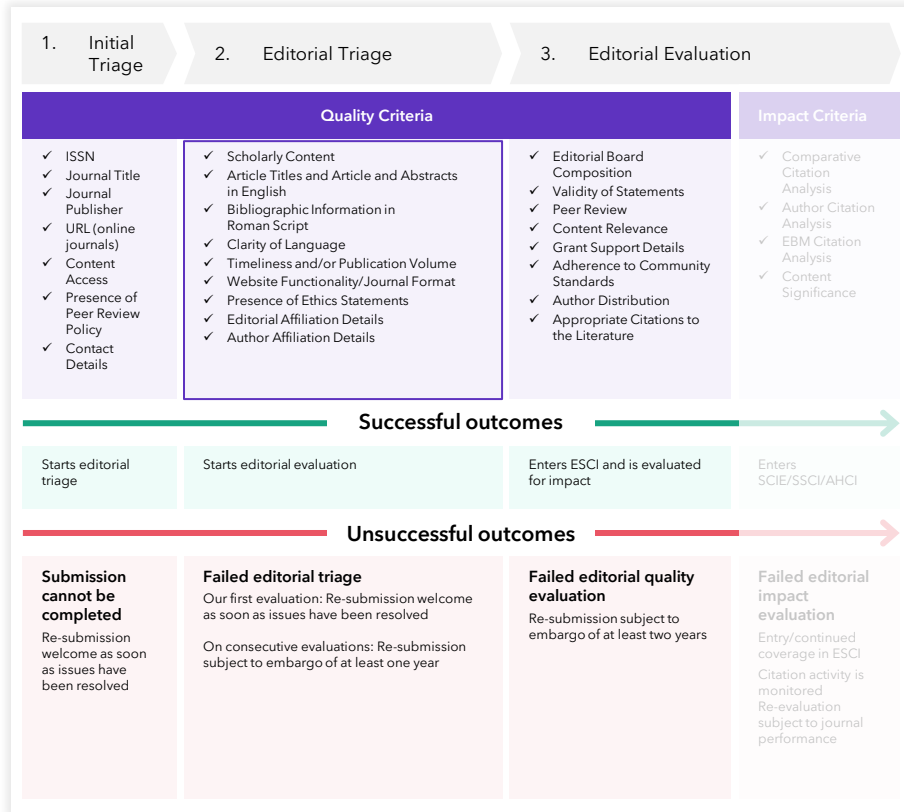
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Editorial Affiliation Details



Author Affiliation Details



Initial Triage

Editorial Triage 

Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

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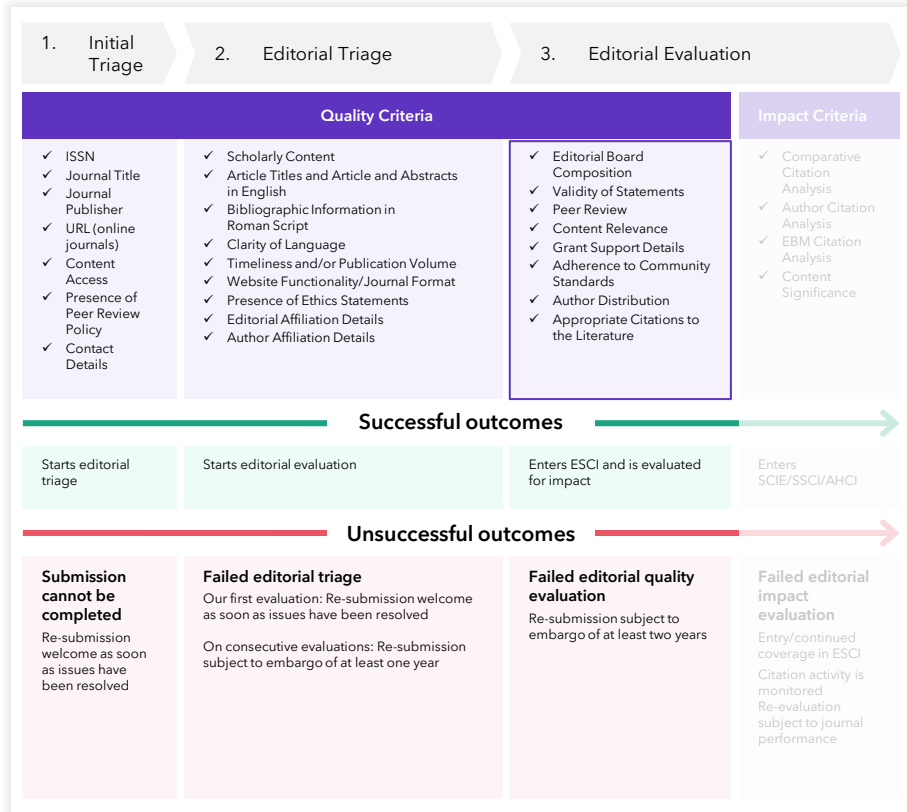


Editorial Affiliation Details



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



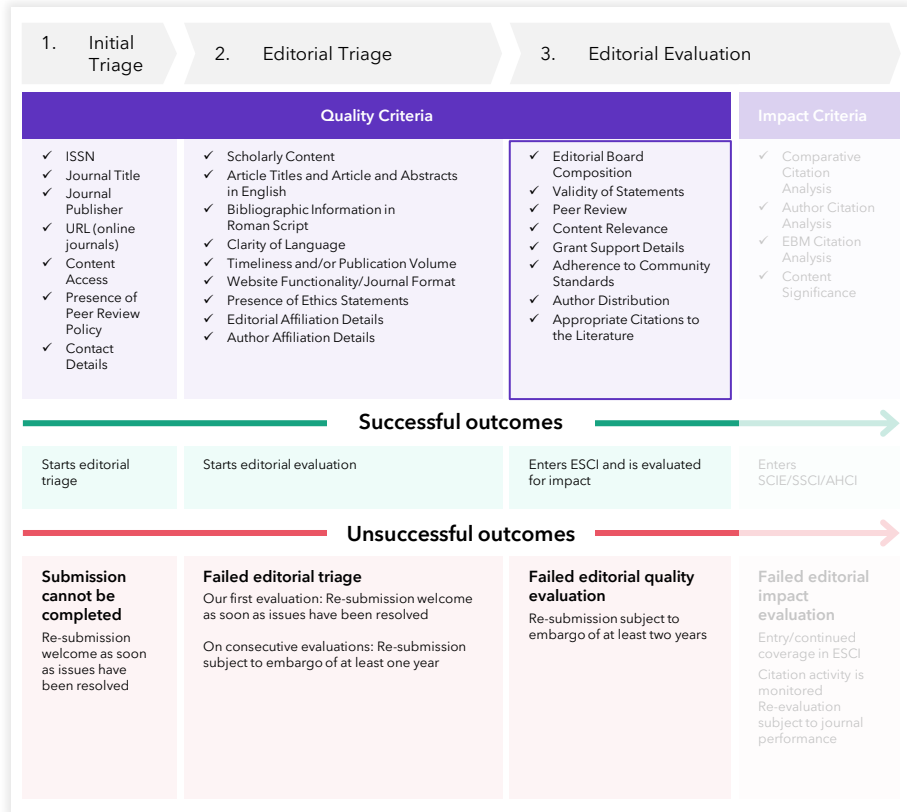
Adherence to Community Standards



Author Distribution



Appropriate Citations to the Literature



Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

**Editorial Evaluation (Quality)** ➤ 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



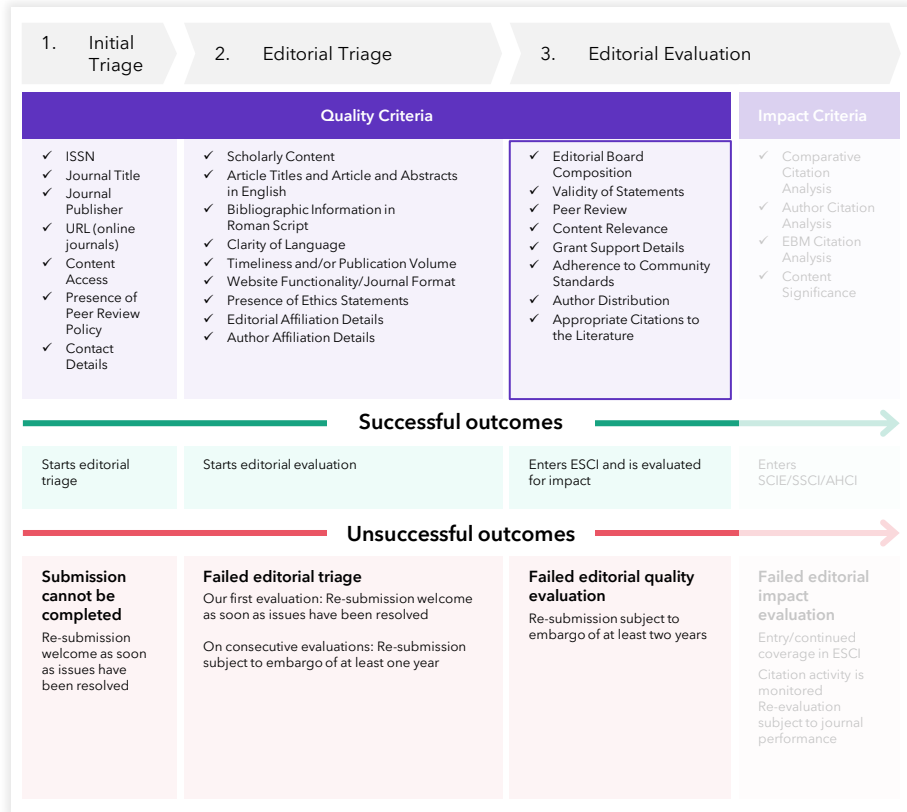
Adherence to Community Standards



Author Distribution



Appropriate Citations to the Literature



Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

Editorial Evaluation (Quality) ✓

Editorial Evaluation (Impact) ✓

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

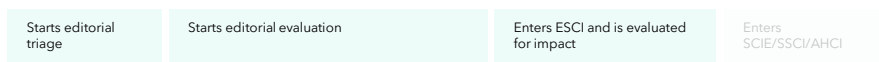


Appropriate Citations to the Literature

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

Quality Criteria			Impact Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ ISSN</li> <li>✓ Journal Title</li> <li>✓ Journal Publisher</li> <li>✓ URL (online journals)</li> <li>✓ Content Access</li> <li>✓ Presence of Peer Review Policy</li> <li>✓ Contact Details</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Scholarly Content</li> <li>✓ Article Titles and Article and Abstracts in English</li> <li>✓ Bibliographic Information in Roman Script</li> <li>✓ Clarity of Language</li> <li>✓ Timeliness and/or Publication Volume</li> <li>✓ Website Functionality/Journal Format</li> <li>✓ Presence of Ethics Statements</li> <li>✓ Editorial Affiliation Details</li> <li>✓ Author Affiliation Details</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Editorial Board Composition</li> <li>✓ Validity of Statements</li> <li>✓ Peer Review</li> <li>✓ Content Relevance</li> <li>✓ Grant Support Details</li> <li>✓ Adherence to Community Standards</li> <li>✓ Author Distribution</li> <li>✓ Appropriate Citations to the Literature</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Comparative Citation Analysis</li> <li>✓ Author Citation Analysis</li> <li>✓ EBM Citation Analysis</li> <li>✓ Content Significance</li> </ul>

Successful outcomes



Unsuccessful outcomes

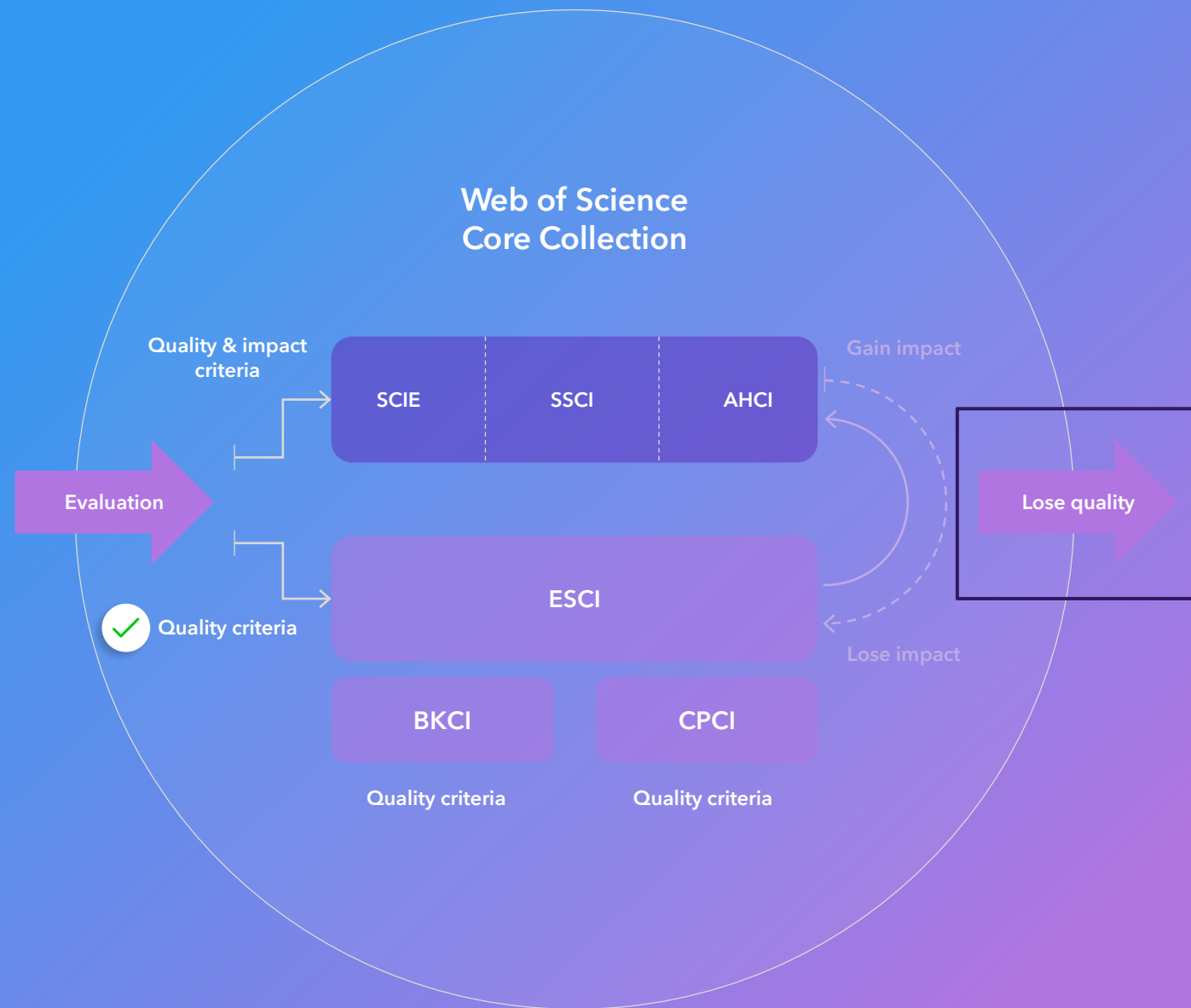
<p><b>Submission cannot be completed</b></p> <p>Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved</p>	<p><b>Failed editorial triage</b></p> <p>Our first evaluation: Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved</p> <p>On consecutive evaluations: Re-submission subject to embargo of at least one year</p>	<p><b>Failed editorial quality evaluation</b></p> <p>Re-submission subject to embargo of at least two years</p>	<p><b>Failed editorial impact evaluation</b></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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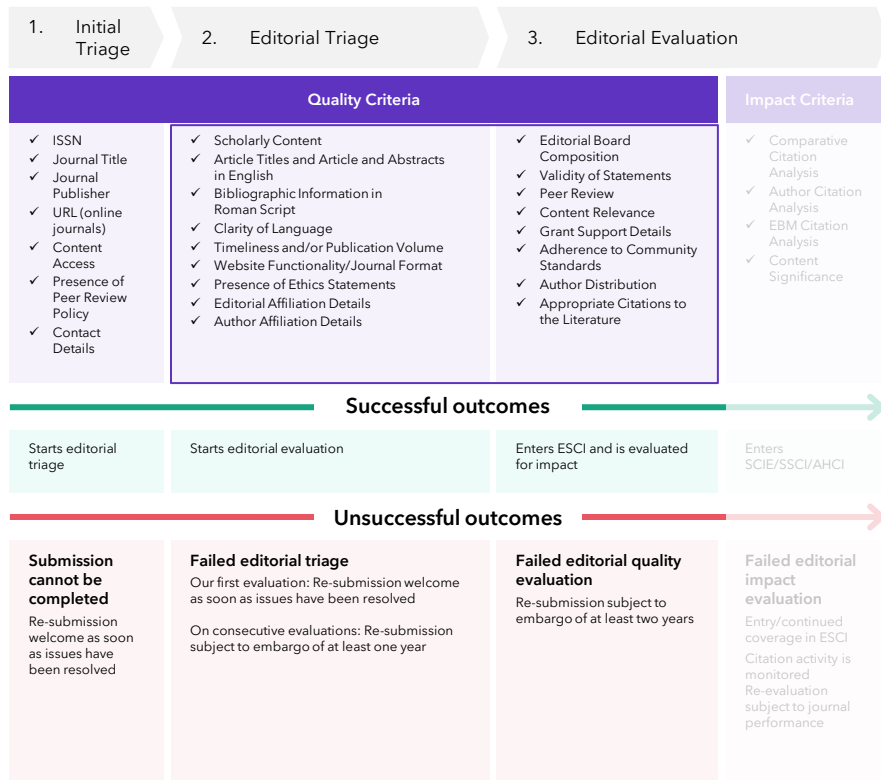
Initial Triage ✓

Editorial Triage ✓

Editorial Evaluation (Quality) ✓

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)





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

67 - 77 of 103

## 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

This journal does not have a print ISSN

This journal does not have an online ISSN

Next →

# Changes to the 2023 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 category rankings** and JIF **quartiles** are provided for journals indexed in the **SCIE and the SSCI only**.



In **2024** we will add AHCI and ESCI journals to the category rankings in the JCR and assign them to JIF quartiles. We will create **a single ranking for each of our 254 categories** that includes journals from all four editions (SCIE, SSCI, AHCI and ESCI).



The **JIF** is now displayed with **one decimal place**, rather than three decimal places.

Read more about the updates to the 2023 JCR [here](#).



# More information on our website

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

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[Web of Science Publisher Portal](#)

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[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](https://support.clarivate.com/ScientificandAcademicResearch/s/?language=en_US)





Thank you

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