



The Section Editor Role

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Applies to:

[PLOS Climate](#) | [PLOS Global Public Health](#) | [PLOS Mental Health](#) |
[PLOS ONE](#) | [PLOS Water](#)

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PLOS Section Editors form an international Editorial Board of active researchers who ensure that all rigorously conducted research submitted to the journal is made available as soon as possible and without restriction.

As experts in the fields of research they serve, our editors voice the needs of their community and are active participants in scholarly communication discussions around open access, open data, open science, and peer review.

Section Editor Responsibilities

Section Editors lead the subject sections within the journal scope and advise a group of Academic Editors with expertise in their discipline.

To foster a partnership between the journal and the research community, Section Editors strive to:

Lead

- Act as a leader or co-leader of a section within the journal
- Support and advise Academic Editors in their section in editorial decision making and more broadly by providing editorial guidance
- Assist in the editorial development of their section and the journal as a whole, including content curation, solicitation of submissions and selection of content for promotion within their disciplines
- Recommend potential candidates with expertise in their discipline to serve as Academic Editors

Represent

- Actively promote and maintain the integrity, reputation and high editorial standards of the journal
- Liaise with journal staff, Editorial Board members, and in the community as the voice of their section

Advise

- Provide counsel on journal policies, including scope, research ethics, community standards, and reporting guidelines within their discipline
- Advise on the suitability of a manuscript for publication at any stage of the peer review process and in relation to any aspects covered by the publication criteria (scope, study design, ethics, etc.) within their discipline

- Adjudicate on difficult editorial decisions and advise in appeals as needed

Be an Ambassador

Our editors are PLOS ambassadors who are empowered to use their expertise to spread awareness of our [mission](#) and [values](#) in the global research community, forge diverse relationships, guide and encourage a diverse group of prospective and current contributors, reflect community needs, and increase goodwill.

Uphold Our Code of Conduct

In addition to these role expectations, all editors adhere to PLOS's [Code of Conduct](#) for Editorial Board Members.