

Monographs Submission Guidelines

The *Monographs of the Society for Research in Child Development* is a serial publication which provides authors or collaborative teams of authors a platform for disseminating conceptually rich and empirically distinguished work that supports the SRCD mission—to advance developmental science and promote its use to improve human lives. This page provides information about procedures for the preparation and submission of manuscripts.

Preliminary Inquiries

It is strongly recommended (although not required) that potential authors consult the Editor before submitting a full manuscript. To do so, please send a very brief description (a paragraph or so) of your idea directly to the Editor, Lynn Liben (liben@psu.edu), including "MONO Inquiry [AUTHOR NAME]" in the subject line. If you have not received a response within 10 days, please resend your email to the Editor, copying the SRCD Editorial Office (monographs@srcd.org).

If there appears to be a potential fit with *Monographs*, the Editor will invite the author to submit a several page prospectus. The prospectus (in Microsoft Word) should be sent as an email attachment to the Editor (liben@psu.edu). Please include "MONO Prospectus [AUTHOR NAME]" in the subject line. The Editor will contact the author directly with feedback on the prospectus. An author who has not received feedback within two weeks of submission should send an inquiry via email to both the Editor and the SRCD Editorial Office.

[Back to Top](#)

English Language Editing Services

Authors have the option, but are not required, to use the services noted below to translate or proofread their text pre-submission. This option may be particularly helpful to non-native English speakers. Please note that this list is not exhaustive, and SRCD does not endorse – and is not responsible for the quality of – any product or service mentioned.

- [Alba Editing](#)
- [American Journal Experts](#)
- [AuthorAID](#)
- [Editage](#)
- [INLEXIO](#)
- [International Science Editing](#)
- [ScienceDocs](#)
- [SPi Global](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Ethics and Integrity

- [Ethical Standards for Research with Children](#)
- [Policy on Scientific Integrity, Transparency, and Openness](#)

Sociocultural Policy

As a publication of the SRCD, *Monographs* are expected to be consistent with the Society’s Sociocultural Policy which appears below. Authors are invited to consult with the Editor about how best to provide information about characteristics of samples, contexts, and methods that are needed for drawing conclusions about, or generalizing from, empirical findings.

As developmental science becomes more global, and the role of context in human development becomes more evident, it is necessary that SRCD publications provide, in addition to age, an indication of the unique characteristics of the sample and the “socioeconomic and cultural place” from which their findings

originate. Accordingly, it is now required that manuscripts to be published in SRCD journals specify clearly in the appropriate section(s) (e.g., Method, Discussion) and in an abbreviated form in the Abstract: (1) the dates of data collection (if applicable); (2) the theoretically relevant characteristics of the particular sample studied, for example, but not limited to: race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, language, sexual orientation, gender identity (inclusive of non-binary options), religion, generation, family characteristics; and (3) the place(s) from which that sample was drawn, including country, region, city, neighborhood, school, etc. and all other context variables that are relevant to the focus of the publication, except when it violates expectations of privacy and confidentiality by an institutional review board or the setting itself. Additionally, selection and recruitment procedures should be clearly specified in the Method section.

The Sociocultural Policy is the product of a recognition that current policies and practices were not reflecting the state of the scholarship in terms of addressing diversity and replicability. As such, the Sociocultural Policy reflects current gaps in the science and is a dynamic policy. The Society will conduct ongoing reviews and re-evaluations of the Sociocultural Policy's effectiveness over time and its efficacy in advancing the Society's strategic goals. The Sociocultural Policy, procedures, and rationale will be revisited on a biannual basis to reflect changing demographics, an increasingly global society, and relevant contemporary issues.

[Back to Top](#)

Formatting Requirements

Manuscript preparation should be guided by the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th edition, 2010). The complete manuscript, including all material (e.g., tables, figures, references), should be:

- About 150 - 200 pages
- Double-spaced
- 1-inch margins on all sides

For any formatting question not explicitly addressed in these Guidelines, please follow the directions in the *APA Manual*.

APA Style Reminders

- **References**

- Be sure to double check the match between your in-text citations and the reference list.
- Please check the APA Manual carefully for proper formatting of different types of references (e.g., books, oral presentations, dissertations, poster presentations), of the sequence in which references by the same author are to be listed, and of sources with more than seven authors.
- Authors' initials should be spaced ("Smith, M. C.") not closed up ("Smith, M.C.").

- **Headings.** Please follow the APA formatting rules to indicate different heading levels.

- **Tables.** Please be sure that all components of your tables (e.g., titles and footnotes) follow APA rules. Entries should be separated with sufficient space so that rows and columns are clear; use vertical and horizontal lines sparingly.

- **In-Text Formatting.**

- Translate school grades into ages because grade levels are not globally meaningful.
- Italicize statistical symbols as required (e.g., *M*, *SD*, *SE*, *r*).
- Include degrees of freedom for statistical tests as required.
- Use italics rather than underlining in the text.
- Write out numbers under 10 in words and use numerals for 10 or more. One exception is that units of measurement (e.g., age, grade, time, distance) are always given in numerals. A second exception is that when a number under 10 is part of a series of higher numbers, digits are used for all.
- Hyphenate years and months when they are used as modifiers (e.g., 4-year-olds; 3-month-olds; third-grade children) but omit hyphens otherwise (e.g., children were tested at 4 years; participants were third graders).
- Avoid combining inanimate nouns with action verbs such as "the research shows" or "the study examined."
- Restrict the term "relationship" to interpersonal phenomena; all other associations (logical, mathematical, etc.) should be termed "relation" or a synonym such as "association" or "link."
- The words "while" and "since" express temporal meaning; words such as "although" or "whereas" should be used to contrast two situations.

[Back to Top](#)

Manuscript Preparation and Submission

In preparation for manuscript submission on the [Monographs ScholarOne Portal](#), please prepare your work in two separate files. The first—the **Author File**—contains sections that have author-identifying information. The second—the **Manuscript File**—contains sections that are used for blind review of the manuscript. Within each of these two files, the sub-sections named below should appear in the order listed. Each sub-section should begin on a new page with the sub-section title appearing centered at the top of the page.

In both files, a RUNNING HEAD (in all caps) should appear on the top left of every page. In the Author File, you do not need to insert page numbers (although you may if you wish). In the Manuscript File, please number each page of the submitted manuscript consecutively in the top right corner beginning with the Abstract. You do not need to insert page numbers into the Table of Contents itself because these will be determined during production if your manuscript is accepted for publication.

If you wish, you may submit an optional third file of **Supporting Information** which is intended for online publication only. For more information, please refer to the [Wiley-Blackwell Supporting Information FAQs](#) page. Since material in the Supporting Information file will also be available to reviewers, please be sure to omit all author-identifying information.

Author File

- **Title and Author Page.** The title and author page should include the proposed *Monograph* title and authors' names and affiliations. Please note that short and jargon-free titles are preferred. Information about the listing of authors is provided in the earlier section on "Authorship."
- **Acknowledgements.** Please include address for corresponding author. Please list all funding sources and associations (e.g., paid positions) that may suggest a conflict of interest with respect to the substance of the *Monograph*.
- **Author biographies.** Please provide brief (~50-word) biographical statements for each author that includes authors' affiliation and major research interests.

Manuscript File

- **Table of Contents.** The table of contents should list all sections, including chapter titles. When possible, chapter titles should be informative; e.g., "I. Early Theoretical and Empirical Work on Parenting Styles" rather than "I. Introduction."

- **Extended abstract.** The extended abstract should be as jargon-free as possible and should not exceed 800 words. (Note that the abstract should be included here even though it is also submitted separately early in the submission process.) If your manuscript is accepted for publication, you will also be asked to provide a shorter abstract for other publicity and referencing purposes.
- **Text chapters.** Please begin each chapter on a new page. Each chapter should be labeled with the chapter number followed by a meaningful title as illustrated above.
- **References.** Please remember to include DOIs in all references.
- **Endnotes** (if any). Endnotes should be used sparingly if at all. They should be numbered sequentially throughout the manuscript (i.e., numbering should not begin anew with each new chapter). All numbered endnotes should be combined in a separate section, labeled "Endnotes," and placed immediately following the References.
- **Appendices** (if any). Label and begin each on a separate page.
- **Tables.** Tables should be numbered consecutively throughout the manuscript (i.e., table numbers should not begin anew within each chapter). Please group all tables following the appendices. Irrespective of how small a table may be, each should appear on a separate page. Please indicate the approximate location of each table in the text (e.g., "Insert Table X about here").
- **Figures.** Each figure should appear on a separate page. All figures should be grouped at the end of the manuscript following the tables. Please indicate the approximate location of each figure in the text (e.g., "Insert Figure X about here"). Please prepare figures so that they will be legible when their scale is reduced to accommodate page size.

Optional: Supporting Information (Blinding)

If you wish to include (optional) supporting information for review and online publication, please select the file designation "Supporting Information for review and online publication only" when uploading your file to the submission portal.

[Back to Top](#)

Manuscript Submission and Review Process

Manuscripts should be submitted online through the *Monographs* ScholarOne Portal.

[Submit to Monographs](#)

Authorship

Potential authors need not be members of the Society for Research in Child Development, and they need not have any particular higher degree nor be identified with any specific discipline. Authorship is identified and indexed for each *Monograph* as a whole. On the title page, please include one or more of the following as appropriate for your submission:

1. individual authors' names
2. a named author group (e.g., the "NICHD Early Child Care Research Network") for which a footnote may be used to list group members.

In addition, if desired, you may include:

3. a statement of author contributions that explains individuals' roles. For example, such as statement might say: "Author A developed the conceptual model and empirical research design; Author B collected, coded, and analyzed data; and Authors A and B shared responsibility for writing the manuscript."

Author Assurances

As part of the submission process, authors are asked to certify that:

- All listed authors agree with the listed author names and their ordering;
- All authors are responsible for and in agreement with the content of the entire manuscript;
- The corresponding author assumes responsibility for promptly informing all coauthors of relevant actions and requirements (e.g., manuscript submission, editorial decisions, reviews, revisions);
- The study has been reviewed, as required, by the appropriate Institutional Review Board, and conducted according to the Ethical Standards in Research of the Society for Research in Child Development; and that
- Financial support and conflicts of interest have been disclosed before the manuscript is entered into production.

In addition, by submitting the manuscript, authors acknowledge that they are aware that their manuscript may be screened for overlap with previously published works; that written permission is required to publish copyrighted material (e.g., quotations or figures); that appropriate license agreements must be executed prior to publication; and that online, figures are automatically published in color, but in print, figures appear in black-and-white unless authors cover color-printing costs (currently \$375 per figure).

Author Suggestions

Authors are welcome to suggest knowledgeable reviewers. Please *avoid* suggesting those with whom you have a close working or personal relationship (e.g., colleagues or collaborators, recent students or mentors). A comment box is available to provide additional information about suggested reviewers or to indicate names of individuals you would prefer not be invited to review.

Additionally, the submission site provides authors with a place to make suggestions relevant to dissemination efforts if their manuscript is accepted for publication. In particular, authors may propose individuals from within or beyond the academic community who might be invited to write commentaries; identify disciplines or professional organizations likely to include people for whom their *Monograph* would be of particular interest; and suggest course offerings for which the *Monograph* might be a required or supplemental reading.

Cover Letter

Please include a cover letter to provide any information that is not already addressed by submission procedures and that you believe is important for consideration of the manuscript.

Manuscript Review

Submitted manuscripts undergo peer review. Every effort will be made to reach an editorial decision as quickly as possible, but given that *Monograph* manuscripts are long, the review process is typically long as well. Please feel free to contact the SRCD Editorial Office, monographs@srcd.org, to inquire if you have not received a decision within 4 months of submission.

[Back to Top](#)

Accepted Manuscript and Publication Information

Note to NIH Grantees

Pursuant to NIH mandate, through Wiley-Blackwell SRCD will post the accepted version of contributions authored by NIH grant-holders to PubMed Central upon acceptance. This accepted version will be made publicly available 12 months after publication. For further information, see www.wiley.com/go/nihmandate.

iThenticate Notification

Powered by Turnitin's text comparison tool iThenticate, CrossRef's Similarity Check enables the SRCD Editorial Office to assess the originality of all submitted manuscripts. iThenticate finds and reports overlaps in text through the use of text-searching algorithms, checking a document against an extensive database of published scholarly writing. Its reports highlight material that matches documents in the iThenticate database and their percentage of similarity. The reports allow editors to judge the appropriateness of any substantial overlap between documents. Some overlap may result from authors using identical language across manuscripts to report precise details of methods; such overlap should be identified explicitly in the text by the use of quotation marks or indented text. Other overlap may indicate plagiarism of others or self; such overlap is unacceptable and cannot be published.

For more information, please see the Committee on Publication Ethics' Text Recycling Guidelines: <https://publicationethics.org/text-recycling-guidelines>.

[Back to Top](#)

Questions

Questions about editorial policy or content should be directed to the Editor, Lynn Liben, at liben@psu.edu. Questions about manuscript preparation and submission should be directed to the SRCD Editorial Office at monographs@srcd.org.

[Back to Top](#)