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Each manuscript submitted is reviewed by the Editors, who will monitor it through the review process. Each paper undergoes blind review by experts in the area of its content. Articles are judged on the following criteria:

- Importance of the topic addressed
- Soundness of conceptualization
- Clarity of purpose and goals
- Adequacy of the research
- Accuracy and validity of content
- Reliability of conclusions
- Contribution to professional literature
- Reader interest and appeal

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Manuscript Submission. Electronic submissions are encouraged, but submissions via surface mail are also acceptable. Submissions should include a cover letter that indicates for which section of the journal (i.e., *Research* or *Practice*) the manuscript has been prepared. Submissions should be sent to: **Dr. Charles Hughes**, Department of Educational Psychology & Special Education, Penn State University, 224 CEDAR Building, University Park, PA 16802-3109. E-mail: cah14@psu.edu. In the cover letter, authors should indicate that the findings reported in the manuscript are original, that they have not been published previously, and that the manuscript is not being simultaneously submitted elsewhere. Authors should also state that they have complied with American Psychological Association ethical standards in the treatment of their samples.

Please note that Word 2007 is not yet compatible with journal production systems. Unfortunately, the journal cannot accept Microsoft Word 2007 documents until such time as a stable production version is released. Please use Word's 'Save As' option therefore to save your document as an older (.doc) file type.

Artwork. There are three preferred formats for digital artwork submission: Encapsulated PostScript (EPS), Portable Document Format (PDF), and Tagged Image Format (TIFF). We suggest that line art be saved as EPS files. Alternately, these may be saved as PDF files at 600 dots per inch (dpi) or better at final size. Tone art, or photographic images, should be saved as TIFF files with a resolution of 300 dpi at final size. For combination figures, or artwork that contains both photographs and labeling, we recommend saving figures as EPS files, or as PDF files with a resolution of 600 dpi or better at final size. More detailed information on the submission of electronic artwork can be found at <http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/authors/digill.asp>.

Manuscript Style. Manuscripts must be prepared according to the style recommendation in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th ed., 2001). Manuscripts must be double-spaced, with wide margins throughout. Except under unusual circumstances, manuscripts should be no longer than 30 pages in length. The manuscript should contain the following elements:

Title page. The first page of the manuscript should include the title of the article and the complete names and institutional affiliations of all authors. As a separate item, indicate the name, postal and email address, and phone number of the corresponding author. Also provide a short title to be used as a running head.

Abstract. Each article should be prefaced by a brief abstract (100–150 words).

Biographical statement. Authors should include a short (40–60 words) biographical statement with the heading, *About the Authors*. This statement will be included at the end of the article.

Additional elements—tables, figures, acknowledgments, when included—should take the following form:

Tables. All tabulated data identified as tables should be given a table number and a descriptive title. Tables should be typed double-spaced on separate pages.

Figures. Figures should be numbered and labeled (first author's name) in pencil on the reverse side. Brief captions to the figures should be listed on a separate page and numbered consecutively in correspondence to the figures. Upon acceptance of a manuscript for publication, the author should be prepared to supply line art as black on white glossy prints that are approximately twice the final size. Note: If symbols are used—especially many symbols on one graph (e.g., open squares, open diamonds, and closed circles)—they should be large enough to be clearly distinguished after reduction. Color photographs are acceptable, but reproduction thereof must be prepaid by the author.

Acknowledgments. Acknowledgments (e.g., of collaboration or support) may be included on a separate page. Acknowledgments will appear at the end of the article before the reference section.

A note on manuscript style. Both sections of the journal publish only those articles judged to be of superior quality. Quality is judged on the basis of design, implementation, writing, and importance of the article to the field. However, different styles of writing are preferred in the two sections. Authors preparing manuscripts for the *Research* section should adhere to style guidelines generally observed in scientific journals. Care should be taken to describe subject selection criteria, subject characteristics, research procedures, data analysis employed, and the like. Discussion should emphasize the practical applications of the research findings, as well as theoretical interpretation of findings. Articles discussing issues of concern to researchers also are appropriate for this section of *LD RP*.

Authors preparing manuscripts for the *Practice* section should consider a more informal style with an emphasis on rich, detailed descriptions of programs and procedures, and implications. Discursive articles and reviews of literature on topics or issues of interest to practitioners are appropriate. In either case, the content must be grounded in research. Articles reporting original, practice-oriented research are also acceptable for this section, but the above stylistic guidelines should be considered.

Review Process. The Editors will determine which section of the journal (i.e., *Research* or *Practice*) is the appropriate vehicle for the article submitted; author's stipulations as included in the cover letter will generally be honored. The Editors will send the manuscript for blind review to three Reviewers who will be selected on the basis of their expertise in the content area addressed or the methodology used. The review process normally takes 6 to 8 weeks, and, after all reviews are returned, the principal author will receive notification about the publication decision from the Editors. Authors may be requested to make revisions, ranging from minor to major, prior to final acceptance. The Editors reserve the right to make minor editorial changes that do not affect materially the meaning of the text.

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