

JOURNAL OF PHYSICS TEACHER EDUCATION ONLINE

GUIDELINES FOR REVIEWERS

(Last updated May 7, 2005)

1. **To be acceptable, a manuscript must address one of the major themes of *JPTEO*.** The major themes are the preparation of physics/physical science teacher candidates for teaching in elementary school, middle school, or high school OR the professional development of in-service physics/physical science teachers at any of these levels. Manuscripts should not deal with exclusively college- or university-level subject matter unless subject matter deals directly with teacher candidate preparation. *JPTEO* is not generally speaking a forum for publishing physics education research (PER) unless the subject matter deals extensively and directly with the improvement of teacher practice at the pre-college level.
2. **A manuscript should make a significant contribution to the preparation of physics/physical science teachers and/or the professional development of inservice physics/physical science teachers.** *JPTEO* readers want to hear not just what was done, but how they might apply what has been learned to their own practice. Topics must be of interest and utility to our readership. The readership consists mostly of physics/physical science teachers and teacher educators.
3. **A manuscript should contain some element of novelty.** *JPTEO* will not publish information that basically consists of a re-presentation of commonly known information unless it provides a unique perspective on that information.
4. **A manuscript generally should be readily comprehensible by teacher candidates, inservice teachers, and/or teacher educators.** A manuscript need not be addressed to all levels of teacher candidate preparation or professional practice, but it should be readily comprehensible to the intended sub-audience if any. If a sub-audience is intended, then this should be clearly indicated in the manuscript title or abstract.
5. **A manuscript must not closely parallel an article that has recently appeared in *JPTEO*.** Additionally, *JPTEO* will not publish an article that, in substance, has been published earlier in this publication or elsewhere.
6. **A manuscript should exhibit a professional writing style.** The presentation of subject matter should be clear, accurate, concise, well organized, logically presented, and of suitable depth and/or breadth as suits the topic. It should be grammatically correct and free of typographical errors. The document should provide appropriate and up-to-date references.
7. **Reviewers should clearly indicate whether the manuscript should be:**
 - a. **accepted without major change.** Such manuscripts probably will contain only minor grammatical or typographical errors. Please point these out to the editor noting page and paragraph number. The editor-in-chief will normally make these corrections.
 - b. **accepted only after significant revision.** Such manuscripts contain significant information, but are not yet ready for publication due to any of a number of reasons. Reviewers should indicate the area(s) of concern and note how the author(s) might address them if appropriate. Suggestions will be forwarded to the author(s) for revision of the manuscript.
 - c. **rejected.** If in the opinion of the reviewer the manuscript does not appear to be acceptable for publication in *JPTEO*, please include your reasons making giving due regard to the above criteria. The reasons for rejection will be transmitted to the author(s) of the manuscript in an official communication of rejection to the author(s).