

Impact Section—Editorial Guidelines

MRS Bulletin Impact: Editorial Guidelines

Aims and Scope

MRS Bulletin Impact is a premier outlet for high-profile original materials research, published monthly as a section of MRS Bulletin.

MRS Bulletin Impact seeks to publish the most innovative work that will capture the attention of materials researchers around the world and affect fundamental insights in all fields of materials research and related disciplines. Papers that identify emerging hot topics and trends are especially welcome. Articles in areas that will have a lasting, deep, and insightful impact on the field of materials will be pursued.

MRS Bulletin Impact offers authors high visibility, rigorous peer review, rapid publication, access to a broad readership, and high standards of copyediting and production.

Opinion & Perspective articles will provide context to the reported results. Select papers will be highlighted via news releases, social media, multimedia, and other channels.

The editorial process ensures quick turnaround times (for most papers, around four weeks to first editorial decision), rapid citable online publication of the accepted version in First View, discoverability in scientific databases, and rapid proofs of pages.

Editorial Policy

MRS Bulletin Impact publishes a premium selection of highly selective new, original, and important research that demonstrates a significant impact or advance in scientific understanding of exceptional interest to the materials research community.

Manuscripts are accepted with the understanding that they represent original research, except for review articles and opinion pieces, and that they have not been copyrighted, published, or submitted for publication elsewhere. Authors submitting manuscripts to *MRS Bulletin Impact* who have related material under consideration or in press elsewhere must disclose this information and send a copy of the related material to the journal at the time of submission.

Authors of each article appearing in *MRS Bulletin Impact* are solely responsible for all content in their article(s), including accuracy of the facts, statements, and citing resources. Facts and opinions are solely the personal statements of the respective

authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the editors, the Materials Research Society, or Springer Nature.

Engineering studies and applications for commercial products are beyond the scope of *MRS Bulletin Impact* and should be submitted elsewhere. Manuscripts that report data without giving analysis, interpretation, or discussion are only acceptable if the data are sufficiently important that publication is expected to lead to significant new studies or advancements in materials science or technology.

Editorial Process and Decisions

The Editorial Board pre-screens all papers to decide whether they will proceed to the full peer review process. Editorial decisions are made based on scientific and scholarly merit, and weighted to significance of impact.

Clarity of writing and presentation is a key aspect to ensure that papers are broadly accessible to a wide audience of materials researchers, thereby increasing the reach of the articles. The use of clear and consistent language, explicit description of the topic's significance, the use of novel and broader impacts for each article, and strict attention to graphic details is sought. Abbreviations, particularly those that are not standard, should also be kept to a minimum. Technical jargon must be avoided. The use of interactive elements, such as data sets, models, movies, and other media, is welcome.

Authors of *MRS Bulletin Impact* must fulfill the criteria informed by the MRS Policy on Publication Ethics and Responsibilities.

Appeals on editorial decisions must be submitted in writing to the MRS Bulletin office.

General Author Information

Submission instructions:

Original and revised manuscripts should be uploaded via Springer Nature's electronic manuscript processing platform, [Editorial Manager](#).

Submissions should include:

- A cover letter (explaining background, impact, key results, as well as a statement that none of the material has been published or is under consideration elsewhere, and that all co-authors are aware of and have approved the submission).

- Complete contact information for all authors, including email addresses and ORCID IDs, if available.
- A list at least three suggested reviewers with contact information (and, if needed, a list of reviewers to exclude).
- The main manuscript file (Microsoft Word format preferred).
- Permissions for any figures taken from outside sources must be submitted.
- Any additional materials (e.g. figures, tables, supplementary information) if needed. Figures must be embedded in the manuscript for placement purposes, and also submitted as separate high-resolution in TIFF or EPS formats. Please see our [artwork submission guidelines](#) for more details.

Manuscript preparation

The following guidelines should be used when preparing a manuscript for submission to *MRS Bulletin Impact*:

1) PAPER TITLE (maximum of 80 characters): Careful consideration should be given to the title of the paper and its impact on discoverability by other researchers. Does the title indicate the critical significance of the findings? Does the title include appropriate key words that will help other researchers find the paper in an online search? Titles typically should not include numbers, acronyms, abbreviations, or punctuation. They should include sufficient detail for indexing purposes in databases; however, they must be general enough for readers outside of the field to comprehend the subject of the paper.

2) AUTHORS AND AFFILIATIONS: The corresponding author(s) must be clearly marked with an *, and contact information must be provided within the manuscript. All affiliations of each author must be listed. Please include ORCID IDs if available.

3) ABSTRACT (150 words maximum): The abstract must be intelligible to a broad audience (start with an opening sentence stating the problem, include background, key results reported, conclusions, and context). Avoid the use of jargon and other terminology that would render the abstract inaccessible to the non-specialist.

4) IMPACT STATEMENT (200 words maximum): This statement, which will appear in the published paper, should describe the impact of the results reported more broadly on science, practice, policy and society. Providing appropriate context and making the results understandable to a much broader materials researcher audience should be the goal.

5) 3–5 keywords selected from the [MRS Publications Keywords List](#).

6) INTRODUCTION

7) RESULTS

8) DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION (must provide sufficient information to allow replication of the results, can be separate or combined sections)

9) MATERIALS AND METHODS (must include all details to replicate the results)

10) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS AND OTHER DISCLOSURES

11) REFERENCES

12) FIGURES AND TABLES (include figures and captions; captions must explain the results shown, explain the context of what is shown and what it means, and provide a concluding summary of the data shown)

13) SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (such as text, references, figures, tables, video, datasets, codes, etc.; no length limit, but authors are asked to include a table of contents for overview and ensure that materials are concise and clear)

We encourage authors to provide social media contacts and handles for use in dissemination of the results.

An article template will be provided after acceptance.

Manuscripts must be:

- Written in English (with proper grammar and language)
- Formatted to fit 8 ½ x 11 inch page size
- Provided as a .DOC or DOCX file (for initial submissions, a PDF with text, figures, tables, etc. embedded is accepted)
- Single spaced, at least 0.5" border, single column

General submission guidelines for the *MRS Bulletin* may be helpful and can be found [here](#).

ARTICLE TYPES:

- *Impact Articles* of up to 6,000 words (not including figures, captions, or references), with a maximum of six figures and tables combined. Articles must report original results of outstanding scientific importance and reach a conclusion of interest for an interdisciplinary materials research community readership. Typical range of the number of references is between 30–50. Articles usually reach a broader set of insights than Letters, with more significance and wider implications that must be clearly articulated.

- *Impact Letters* of up to 2,500 words (not including figures, captions, or references), with a maximum of four figures and tables combined. Letters must report original results of outstanding scientific importance and reach a conclusion of interest to an interdisciplinary materials research community readership. Number of references is limited to under 30.

- *Review articles* of 6,000 words (not including figures, captions, or references; there is flexibility about the length at the discretion of the editor), to include no more than eight figures and tables combined. Review articles are usually by invitation, but suggestions and proposals in important areas are welcome. The articles should not exceed 75 references. Review articles do not contain supplementary information. The scope of a Review article should be broad enough that it is not dominated by the work of a single laboratory, and particularly not by the authors' own work. All review articles must be of exceptional authority and perspective.

- *Opinion & Perspective* pieces are usually by invitation only, but we welcome unsolicited submissions on topics of critical importance or broad relevance. Limited to 1,000 words (not including figures, captions, or references), and 10 references and 1 figure.

- An Open Access publication option is available.

Authors submitting to the Impact section should select one of the four following options as the Article Type:

- Impact: Original Paper, Article
- Impact: Original Paper, Letter
- Impact: Review
- Impact: Opinion & Perspective

Other considerations:

- **For Letters and Article submissions**, if figures exceed the numbers given above, extras may be included in supplementary material, to be uploaded in separate documents with other manuscript files.

- *MRS Bulletin Impact* publishes corrigenda/errata and letters to the editors (all peer-reviewed).

Important Notes about Manuscript Submission

- Upon submission, the converted PDF proof that is approved and submitted is viewed by the editorial office, editors, and reviewers. The converted PDF file should be carefully reviewed to verify that special characters and formatting have not been lost during conversion.

- After successful submission to the editorial office, all authors will receive a confirmation email containing the manuscript number.

Language Editing Services

All manuscripts must be written in English. If English is the authors' native language, the manuscript must be edited for correct English grammar and sentence structure prior to submission. Please note that poor English ultimately may be a reason to reject a paper. The Materials Research Society has partnered with American Journal Experts (AJE) to provide a 10% discount to MRS members on a comprehensive suite of author services, including English language editing. Learn more at aje.com/go/mrsauthors. Use of these services does not guarantee that a manuscript submitted to MRS Bulletin Impact will be accepted.