

Last updated: July 31, 2024 [View the latest guidelines online](#)

## Scope of the Journal

*Polymer Science & Technology* is a highly selective, open-access journal dedicated to the publication of cutting-edge research in the field of polymer science and its interdisciplinary areas. The journal aims to advance the frontiers of knowledge in polymers and contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals by linking polymer research to the pressing needs of human society.

More information can be found [here](#).

## Manuscript Types

### Article

Articles should report a significant advance in the field of Polymer Science and technology, being characterized by the editor and referees as in the top 10% of advances in the field. Articles must exhibit high scientific quality, originality, significance, and conceptual novelty. They are not intended to be follow-up papers, unless they contain new and extensive information that will substantially advance the understanding of the field.

Manuscripts should describe the research concisely and accurately. While there are no page length restrictions, a suggested guideline is around 7,000 words, including the abstract, main text, tables, and legends (excluding references and Supporting Information). References should accurately represent previous research that has guided the development of the hypothesis and experimental aspects of the work. The abstract should be limited to 300 words, summarizing the research context, key results, and conclusions. Abbreviations and acronyms should only be introduced if essential. Articles should include 5-7 lowercase keywords and a graphical Table of Contents to visually highlight the importance of the research outcomes.

### Letter

Letters are short publications that report results whose immediate availability to the community is deemed important. Letters are limited to 3,000 words including the abstract, main text, tables, and legends, excluding references. Letters can contain up to 5 figures and 50 references; no section headings are used. Letters should include 5-7 lowercase keywords and a graphical Table of Contents. Special efforts will be made to expedite the review and the publication of Letters. Therefore, authors of Letters should ensure that manuscripts are in final, error-free form when submitted.

### Review

Reviews are comprehensive, critical examinations of a selected topic, typically over a defined period. Reviews are expected to critically evaluate published work of multiple, international groups

in a field or across disciplines; be logically organized; be of general interest to the journal readership; and make the material more easily accessible to those not expert in the area through clear text and figures. Reviews should lay out the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead and provide critical discussions that can help move the field forward. A Review should generally not exceed 12,000 words including the abstract, main text, tables, and legends, excluding references. Reviews should contain an abstract (300 words), a graphical Table of Contents, 5-7 lowercase keywords, and appropriate references. The use of graphics to illustrate key concepts within the text is strongly encouraged.

While reviews are mostly invited, unsolicited reviews may also be considered. Authors interested in submitting a Review are strongly encouraged to contact the Editors prior to manuscript preparation and submission, to seek conditional approval of the proposed topic. A single document consisting of the following information should be sent to the Editor ([eic@pst.acs.org](mailto:eic@pst.acs.org)) for consideration.

1. Proposed title
2. Corresponding Author names, affiliations, and websites
3. A short (~400 words) description of the focused topic
4. A list of 5-10 lead references
5. A list of recent review articles published on this topic and an explanation of how the proposed review will differ in focus and advance the literature on the subject.

## Perspective

Perspectives are brief personal accounts of a field or area by one or a small team of authors. Perspective authors are asked to assess the status of the field with an emphasis toward identifying key recent advances, critical challenges for the field, and notable opportunities going forward. Perspectives are focused rather than comprehensive and often elaborate on important unanswered questions and approaches being taken to address them. The primary goal of a Perspective is to inspire and help direct future research efforts. Perspective may not exceed 5,000 words including the abstract (<300 words), main text, and graphical elements, up to 50 references that demonstrate the full range of activities in the field. 5-7 lowercase keywords and a graphical Table of Contents are required for this type of manuscript.

Authors may be invited by the Editor to submit a Perspective. Authors interested in contributing a Perspective are strongly encouraged to contact the Editors prior to manuscript preparation and submission, to seek conditional approval of the proposed topic. A single document consisting of the following information should be sent to the Editor ([eic@pst.acs.org](mailto:eic@pst.acs.org)) for consideration.

1. Proposed title
2. Corresponding Author names, affiliations, and websites
3. A short (~400 words) description of the focused topic
4. A list of 5-10 lead references
5. A list of recent review articles published on this topic and an explanation of how the proposed review will differ in focus and advance the literature on the subject.

## Comment

Comments may take one of the two following forms:

- A comment on one or more recent articles published in *Polymer Science & Technology* or other relevant journals. These discussions should be compelling and provide valuable insights that elucidate the implications of the article(s) and place them in a broader context. By doing so, authors contribute to our interdisciplinary readership's understanding of recent developments in the authors' field.
- A Comment delves into political, ethical, educational, regulatory, or scientific issues relevant to polymer science and technology. Authors are encouraged to offer their personal perspectives on matters of public or scientific importance, fostering thought-provoking dialogue within the community.

Comments should be timely, provocative, and forward-looking. They typically do not present original research data but instead rely on the author's perspective or anecdotal evidence from the author's personal experience to support the arguments. Comments should not exceed 2500 words in total. Comments are usually solicited by the Editors from experts in the field, but pre-submission proposals are also welcome. Authors interested in submitting a Comment should send a proposal of no more than 300 words to the Editor ([eic@pst.acs.org](mailto:eic@pst.acs.org)) for consideration. Although Comments are generally not peer-reviewed, they may be reviewed at the Editor's discretion.

## ACS Researcher Resources

While this document will provide basic information on how to prepare and submit the manuscript as well as other critical information about publishing, we also encourage authors to visit the [ACS Researcher Resources](#) for additional information on everything that is needed to prepare (and review) manuscripts for ACS journals and partner journals, such as

- [Mastering the Art of Scientific Publication](#), which shares editor tips about a variety of topics including making your paper scientifically effective, preparing excellent graphics, and writing cover letters.
- Resources on [how to prepare and submit a manuscript](#) to ACS Paragon Plus, ACS Publications' manuscript submission and peer review environment, including details on selecting the applicable [Journal Publishing Agreement](#).
- [Sharing your research](#) with the public through the ACS Publications open access program.
- [ACS Reviewer Lab](#), a free online course covering best practices for peer review and related ethical considerations.
- [ACS Author Lab](#), a free online course that empowers authors to prepare and submit strong manuscripts, avoiding errors that could lead to delays in the publication process.
- [ACS Inclusivity Style Guide](#), a guide that helps researchers communicate in ways that recognize and respect diversity in all its forms.

## Manuscript Preparation

### Submit with Fast Format

All ACS journals and partner journals have simplified their formatting requirements in favor of a streamlined and standardized format for an initial manuscript submission. Read more about the requirements and the benefits these serves authors and reviewers [here](#).

Manuscripts submitted for initial consideration must adhere to these standards:

- Submissions must be complete with clearly identified standard sections used to report original research, free of annotations or highlights, and include all numbered and labeled components.
- Figures, charts, tables, schemes, and equations should be embedded in the text at the point of relevance. Separate graphics can be supplied later at revision, if necessary.
- When required by a journal's structure or length limitations, manuscript templates should be used.
- References can be provided in any style, but they must be complete, including titles. For information about the required components of different reference types, please refer to the [ACS Style Quick Guide](#).
- Supporting Information must be submitted as a separate file(s).

## Document Templates and Format

*Polymer Science & Technology* does not require the use of any document templates.

General information on the preparation of manuscripts may also be found in the [ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication](#).

## Acceptable Software, File Designations, and TeX/LaTeX

See the list of [Acceptable Software](#) and appropriate [File Designations](#) to be sure your file types are compatible with ACS Paragon Plus. Information for manuscripts generated from [TeX/LaTeX](#) is also available.

## Cover Letter

A cover letter must accompany every manuscript submission. During the submission process, you may type it or paste it into the submission system, or you may attach it as a file.

Recommended information includes the following:

- Title
- Names of all authors
- The type of manuscript submitted
- A paragraph explaining why the article appeals to the broad audience that *Polymer Science & Technology* serves, clearly indicating what is/are key advance(s) of the work relative to the state-of-the-art
- If the manuscript was previously declined by any other ACS journal, it is helpful to provide the name of the journal, the manuscript number, an explanation of the basis for the rejection, and a statement granting *Polymer Science & Technology* permission to obtain the Editor's decision letter and reviews for the declined manuscript. Please provide a response to each reviewer's comments
- A description of any Supporting Information and/or Review-Only Material
- A statement confirming the manuscript has not been previously published by any of the authors and/or is not under consideration for publication in another journal at the time of submission
- A note of any use of a preprint server, and as appropriate, how the manuscript has been adjusted/updated between deposition and submission
- The names and e-mail addresses of at least four potential reviewers. These suggested reviewers must not be former mentors, mentees, collaborators, or coauthors within the past

five years. Ideally, two or more suggested referees will work in different countries than the authors. Non-preferred reviewers may be denoted, along with a reason for their designation.

## Manuscript Text Components

**Title.** Titles should clearly and concisely reflect the emphasis and content of the manuscript. Titles are of great importance for current awareness and information retrieval and should be carefully constructed for these purposes. Titles of manuscripts may not contain the words “New” or “Novel” nor any part number or series number without permission from the Editor. Claims of precedence should not be made in a title, so use of “First” in titles for this purpose is prohibited. Additionally, “Superb”, “Excellent”, “Exceptional”, “Outstanding” or other similar descriptive words, are strongly discouraged. Acronyms and abbreviations are not permitted in manuscript titles unless they are broadly familiar to readers in all disciplines of chemical and biological engineering. Titles should not be phrased as a question.

**Author List.** Bylines should include all those who have made substantial contributions to the work. To facilitate indexing and retrieval and for unique identification of an author, use first names, initials, and surnames (e.g., Jody R. Smith) or first initials, second names, and last names (e.g., J. Riley Smith). Do not use only initials with surnames (e.g., J. R. Smith). Deceased persons who meet the criteria for inclusion as coauthors should be included, with an Author Information note indicating the date of death. Do not include professional or official titles or academic degrees. At least one author must be designated with an asterisk as the person to whom correspondence should be addressed.

The full names and e-mail addresses of all coauthors must be provided on the Authors & Institutes page upon submission of the manuscript in ACS Paragon Plus. Use of ORCID identifiers is encouraged.

Addition or deletion of an author or authors after submission of the manuscript requires justification from the Corresponding Author and is subject to approval by the Editor.

**Institution Address.** The author affiliation(s) listed should be the institution(s) where the work was conducted. If the present address of an author differs from that at which the work was done, that address should be given in an Author Information note.

Many Funders and Institutions require that institutional affiliations are identified for all authors listed in the work being submitted. ACS facilitates this requirement by collecting institution information during manuscript submission under Step 2: Authors and Affiliations in ACS Paragon Plus.

**Abstract.** All Articles, Letters, Reviews, and Perspectives must include an abstract, including an abstract graphic (TOC), in the manuscript document. The abstract should briefly state the purpose of the research, the principal results, and the main conclusions. Abstracts may not contain the words “superb”, “excellent”, “exceptional”, “outstanding”, or other similar descriptive words unless rigorously supported by a thorough comparison with the state-of-the-art in the manuscript. As with manuscript titles, the words “New”, “First”, or “Novel” are generally not acceptable in abstracts.

**Keywords.** All Articles, Letters, Reviews, and Perspectives must be accompanied by 5–10 keywords. These keywords will appear in the PDF version of the article and will also be used as a search term in the HTML version of the article.

**Text.** Standard Article format should be used for preparing a manuscript for submission as an Article, including appropriate section headings (e.g. Introduction, Methods or Experimental Section, Results and Discussion). Section headings should not be used in a Letter. Articles and Letters should both begin with an introductory text that clearly and concisely explains the purpose and significance of the research and puts it into context with earlier work in the area. It should be possible to do this without excessively increasing the length of the Article. Extensive reviews of the literature cannot be accepted. The Methods or Experimental Section can be placed in the main text or in the Supporting Information. It should include sufficient detail for other researchers to

reproduce the work, as well as notes on potential hazards or safety considerations. The results, and a discussion of the results, should follow and be accompanied by schemes and figures with well-composed captions. It is strongly recommended that the main point(s) of the manuscript be summarized in a Conclusions section (for Articles) or at the end of the manuscript (for Letters), along with a forward-looking perspective on how these conclusions relate to the field(s) of study and what may come next.

**Acknowledgment.** Include financial support, technical assistance, advice from colleagues, gifts, etc. Be precise and thorough when acknowledging funders and include grant numbers where appropriate.

**Author Information Notes.** The e-mail address(es) of the Corresponding Author or authors must be provided as a Corresponding Author note. Present addresses for individual authors that differ from the address(es) at which the work was done should be given in a Present Address(es) note. Statements about author contributions to the work or equal contributions of work should be included as a separate statement.

**References and Footnotes.** *All the references and footnotes must be placed together in a list at the end of the manuscript text.* In the Web edition, many of them will have links to other Web resources, such as the corresponding abstracts in *Chemical Abstracts* and the full text from other American Chemical Society journals. Because of this electronic linking, and to aid scientific research, *it is crucial that authors verify the accuracy of all references.*

Unnecessarily long lists of references should be avoided, and excessive self-citation is not permitted. However, authors must reference all previous publications in which portions of the present work have appeared. Each literature reference should be assigned one number and placed in the text as a superscript Arabic numeral. Footnotes to the text should be combined with references and numbered in ordinal sequence. Long footnotes should be avoided in Articles and are not permitted in Communications; additional data and peripheral discussion should be placed in the Supporting Information rather than in footnotes.

Bibliographic references to classified documents and reports or references to unpublished materials that are not generally available to the scientific public should not be used. Authors must obtain written permission from any person whose work is cited as a personal communication, unpublished work, or work in press. Copies of letters of permission and documentation should be appended to the cover letter file. If the manuscript is accepted but the necessary permissions have not been received, the Editor will ask the author to remove the reference(s) and dependent text.

List submitted articles as “in press” only if they have been formally accepted for publication. Otherwise, use “unpublished work” with the name of the place where the work was done and the date. For work published online (ASAP, in press), the DOI should be furnished in addition to the author name(s), article title, journal name, and year. DOI is an accepted form of citation before and after the article appears in an issue.

Example of a journal reference:

Yue, Q.; Liu, W.; Zhu, X. n-Type Molecular Photovoltaic Materials: Design Strategies and Device Applications. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2020**, *142*, 11613–11628.

Example of an in-press journal reference:

Ham, J. S.; Park, B.; Son, M.; Roque, J. B.; Jurczyk, J.; Yeung, C. S.; Baik, M.-H.; Sarpong, R. C–H/C–C Functionalization Approach to N-Fused Heterocycles from Saturated Azacycles. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2020**, DOI: 10.1021/jacs.0c04278.

Example of a reference to a book with no editors:

Desiraju, G. R.; Vittal, J. J.; Ramanan, A. *Crystal Engineering: A Textbook*; World Scientific Publishing Co Pte Ltd.: Singapore, 2011.

Example of a reference to a book with editors:

Byrn, S. R.; Stowell, J. G. Impurities in Drug Substances and Drug Products. In *Validation of*

*Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients*; Berry, I. R., Harpaz, D., Eds.; CRC Press: Boca Raton, 2001; pp 271–292.

Authors should consult the [ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication](#) for the appropriate style to use in citations of journal articles, books, and other publications. In literature references, article titles must be included and journal abbreviations should be those used in the [Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index \(CASSI\)](#).

## Supporting Information

This information is provided to the reviewers during the peer-review process (for Review Only) and is available to readers of the published work (for Publication). Supporting Information must be submitted at the same time as the manuscript. See the list of [Acceptable Software by File Designation](#) and confirm that your Supporting Information is [viewable](#).

If the manuscript is accompanied by any supporting information files for publication, these files will be made available free of charge to readers. A brief, nonsentence description of the actual contents of each file, including the file type extension, is required. This description should be labeled Supporting Information and should appear before the Acknowledgement and Reference sections. Examples of sufficient and insufficient descriptions are as follows:

Examples of sufficient descriptions: “Supporting Information:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra for all compounds (PDF)” or “Additional experimental details, materials, and methods, including photographs of experimental setup (DOC)”.

Examples of insufficient descriptions: “Supporting Information: Figures S1-S3” or “Additional figures as mentioned in the text”.

When including supporting information for review only, include copies of references that are unpublished or in-press. These files are available only to editors and reviewers.

## Research Data Policy

All ACS journals strongly encourage authors to make the research data underlying their articles publicly available at the time of publication.

Polymer Science & Technology applies ACS Research Data Policy Level 1, meaning the journal encourages all authors to publicly share all the data underlying the results reported in the paper, preferably via archiving in an appropriate public repository. Authors are also encouraged to provide a [Data Availability Statement](#) describing the public availability of the data supporting the article’s conclusions. Publicly available data sets should be [cited appropriately](#).

The [ACS Research Data Policy](#) provides additional information on Data Availability Statements, Data Citation, and Data Repositories.

Research data is defined as materials and information used in the experiments that enable the validation of the conclusions drawn in the article, including primary data produced by the authors for the study being reported, secondary data reused or analyzed by the authors for the study, and any other materials necessary to reproduce or replicate the results.

## Data Requirements



*Polymer Science & Technology* does not have specific data requirements. Some resources are available in the [ACS Publishing Center](#), such as the [ACS Math Style Sheet](#) and [NMR Guidelines](#).

## Language and Editing Services

A well-written paper helps share your results most clearly. ACS Publications' [English Editing Service](#) is designed to help scientists communicate their research effectively. Our subject-matter expert editors will edit your manuscript for grammar, spelling, and other language errors so your ideas are presented at their best.

## Preparing Graphics

The quality of illustrations in ACS journals and partner journals depends on the quality of the original files provided by the authors. Figures are not modified or enhanced by journal production staff. All graphics must be prepared and submitted in digital format.

Graphics should be inserted into the main body whenever possible. Please see Appendix 2 for additional information.

Any graphic (figure chart, scheme, or equation) that has appeared in an earlier publication should include a [credit line](#) citing the original source. Authors are responsible for [obtaining written permission](#) to re-use this material.

## Figure and Illustration Services

The impact of your research is not limited to what you can express with words. Tables and figures such as graphs, photographs, illustrations, diagrams, and other visuals can play a significant role in effectively communicating your findings. Our [Artwork Editing](#) and [Graphical Abstract](#) services generate publication-ready figures and Table of Contents (TOC) graphics that conform to your chosen journal's specifications. For figures, this includes changes to file type, resolution, color space, font, scale, line weights, and layout (to improve readability and professional appearance). For TOC graphics, our illustrators can work with a rough sketch or concept or help extract the key findings of your manuscript directly for use as a visual summary of your paper.

## Preparing for Submission

Manuscripts, graphics, supporting information, and required forms, as well as manuscript revisions, must all be submitted in digital format through [ACS Paragon Plus](#), which requires an ACS ID to log in. Registering for an ACS ID is fast, free, and does not require an ACS membership. Please refer to Appendix 1 for additional information on preparing your submission

## Prior Publication Policy

Submission of a manuscript to *Polymer Science & Technology* is contingent upon the agreement by all the authors that the reported work has not received prior publication and that no portion of this or any other closely related work is under consideration for publication.

Authors may deposit an initial draft of their manuscript in a preprint service such as [ChemRxiv](#), [bioRxiv](#), [arXiv](#), or the applicable repository for their discipline before the manuscript is accepted for publication in *Polymer Science & Technology*. Authors may revise the preprint version of their



manuscript up until a final acceptance decision has been issued. Please note any use of a preprint server in the cover letter and include a link to the preprint and, as appropriate, state how the manuscript has been adjusted/updated between deposition and submission. All other prior/redundant publication is forbidden. Upon publication in *Polymer Science & Technology*, authors should add a link from the preprint to the published article via the Digital Object Identifier (DOI). Some preprint servers, including ChemRxiv and bioRxiv, add this link for authors automatically after publication. For further details, contact the Editorial Office. For the ACS Publications policy on theses and dissertations, click [here](#).

## Editorial Policies

### **Open Access and Article Publishing Charges at *Polymer Science & Technology*.**

*Polymer Science & Technology* is a fully open access journal, with all content published under an open access license. Therefore, there are no subscription fees and no charges for accessing, reading, and downloading articles published in the journal. Authors of accepted manuscripts will need to pay an Article Publishing Charge (APC) to have their research published in *Polymer Science & Technology*. The default license for authors will be CC-BY-NC-ND, with the option to upgrade to CC-BY. Discounts are available for ACS Members, and additional country discounts apply for authors based in low-income countries, which are [detailed here](#). Authors from institutions with ACS Read + Publish Agreements are eligible to have their APC covered through these agreements. [Information can be found here](#).

Pricing details [can be found here](#). For assistance with open access, please contact [support@services.acs.org](mailto:support@services.acs.org).

**Review Process Summary.** Editors evaluate all submissions, and they consult with Editorial Advisory Board members in some cases. Some submissions are rejected shortly after submission, for example, those that fall outside the scope of the journal or are not deemed of sufficient interest to the broad readership. For manuscripts considered further, additional peer reviewers and the Editorial Advisory Board members are consulted to evaluate the originality, quality, clarity, and significance. Editors review all feedback and make final decisions. Reviewers may be asked to consider subsequent versions of manuscripts, particularly where new data or information is included, and in those cases, blind copies of reviewers comments may be sent to all reviewers to encourage a consensus recommendation and allow Editors to respond to authors with valuable and timely feedback.

The Editors strongly disapprove of any attempts by authors to determine the identity of reviewers or to confront potential reviewers. The editorial policy of this journal is neither to confirm nor to deny any speculation about the identities of our reviewers. Authors whose manuscripts are published in *Polymer Science & Technology* are expected to review manuscripts submitted by other researchers from time to time. More information about peer review at ACS Publications can be found here: ([https://publish.acs.org/publish/peer\\_reviews](https://publish.acs.org/publish/peer_reviews)).

**Revised Manuscripts.** When a revision is requested after peer review, the authors must return the revised manuscript promptly. Requests for extensions should be sent to the assigned Editor for consideration. After the allotted time, a revised manuscript will be handled as a new submission and will be given a new receipt date.

If a manuscript has been declined by *Polymer Science & Technology* and the author wishes to submit a revised version, the author is required to first gain consent from the Associate Editor who handled the initial submission. If the Associate Editor's consent to resubmit is received (which does not guarantee ultimate acceptance), the cover letter must explicitly state that permission was obtained from the Associate Editor and must describe the changes that have been made in the manuscript and include justification for reconsideration. The manuscript will be assigned to the same Associate Editor who handled the initial submission.

**Pre-submission Inquiries.** If an author is unsure of the fit of their manuscript in *Polymer Science & Technology*, the editorial board is willing to examine manuscripts prior to formal submission via

inquiry to the editorial office via email ([eic@pst.acs.org](mailto:eic@pst.acs.org)).

**Self-Citations.** The use of excessive self-citations, as assessed by the referees and editor(s), is not permitted.

**Nomenclature.** Registered trademark names should be capitalized whenever used. Trade and trivial names should not be capitalized. It is not necessary to use the trademark, registered trademark, or service mark symbol to ensure legal protection for the trademark.

## Providing Potential Reviewer Names

Please suggest at least 4 reviewers from at least two different countries who could evaluate the work. Authors are encouraged to avoid suggesting reviewers from the authors' institutions. Do not suggest reviewers who may have a [real or perceived conflict of interest](#). Whenever possible, suggest academic email addresses rather than personal email addresses.

## Manuscript Transfer

If your submission is declined for publication by this journal, the editors might deem your work to be better suited for another ACS Publications journal or partner journal and suggest that the authors consider transferring the submission. [Manuscript Transfer](#) simplifies and shortens the process of submitting to another ACS journal or partner journal, as all the coauthors, suggested reviewers, manuscript files, and responses to submission questions are copied by ACS Paragon Plus to the new draft submission. Authors are free to accept or decline the transfer offer.

Note that each journal is editorially independent. Transferring a manuscript is not a guarantee that the manuscript will be accepted, as the final publication decision will belong to the editor of the next journal.

# PRODUCTION AND PUBLICATION

## Proofs via ACS Direct Correct

Correction of the galley proofs is the responsibility of the Corresponding Author. The Corresponding Author of an accepted manuscript will receive e-mail notification and complete instructions when page proofs are available for review via [ACS Direct Correct](#). Extensive or important changes on page proofs, including changes to the title or list of authors, are subject to review by the editor.

It is the responsibility of the Corresponding Author to ensure that all authors listed on the manuscript agree with the changes made on the proofs. Galley proofs should be returned within 48 hours in order to ensure timely publication of the manuscript.

## Publication Date and Patent Dates

Accepted manuscripts will be published on the ACS Publications Web site as soon as page proofs are corrected and all author concerns are resolved. The first date on which the document is published on the Web is considered the publication date.

Publication of manuscripts on the Web may occur weeks in advance of the cover date of the issue of publication. Authors should take this into account when planning their patent and intellectual

property activities related to a document and should ensure that all patent information is available at the time of first publication, whether ASAP or issue publication.

All articles published ahead of print receive a unique Digital Object Identifier (DOI) number, which is used to cite the manuscript before and after the paper appears in an issue. Additionally, any supplemental information submitted along with the manuscript will automatically be assigned a DOI and hosted on Figshare to promote open data discoverability and use of your research outputs.

## **ASAP Publication**

Manuscripts will be published on the “ASAP Articles” page on the web as soon as page proofs are corrected, all author concerns are resolved, and payment has been received. ASAP publication usually occurs within a few working days of receipt of page proof corrections (provided payment has been resolved), which can be several weeks in advance of the cover date of the issue.

## **Post-Publication Policies**

The American Chemical Society follows guidance from the [Committee on Publication Ethics](#) (COPE) when considering any ethical concerns regarding a published article, Retractions, and Expressions of Concern.

## **Additions and Corrections**

Additions and Corrections may be requested by the author(s) or initiated by the Editor to address important issues or correct errors and omissions of consequence that arise after publication of an article. All Additions and Corrections are subject to approval by the Editor, and should bring new and directly relevant information and corrections that fix scientific facts. Minor corrections and additions will not be published. Readers who detect errors of consequence in the work of others should contact the corresponding author of that work.

Additions and Corrections must be submitted as new manuscripts via ACS Paragon Plus by the Corresponding Author for publication in the “Addition/Correction” section of the Journal. The corresponding author should obtain approval from all coauthors prior to submitting or provide evidence that such approval has been solicited. The manuscript should include the original article title and author list, citation including DOI, and details of the correction.

## **Retractions**

Articles may be retracted for scientific or ethical reasons and may be requested by the article author(s) or by the journal Editor(s), but are ultimately published at the discretion of the Editor. Articles that contain seriously flawed or erroneous data such that their findings and conclusions cannot be relied upon may be retracted in order to correct the scientific record. When an article is retracted, a notice of Retraction will be published containing information about the reason for the Retraction. The originally published article will remain online except in extraordinary circumstances (e.g. where deemed legally necessary, or if the availability of the published content poses public health risks).

## **Expressions of Concern**

Expressions of Concern may be issued at the discretion of the Editor if:

- there is inconclusive evidence of research or publication misconduct by the authors;
- there is evidence that the findings are unreliable but the authors' institution will not investigate the case;
- an investigation into alleged misconduct related to the publication either has not been, or would not be, fair and impartial or conclusive;
- an investigation is underway but a judgment will not be available for a considerable time.

Upon completion of any related investigation, and when a final determination is made about the outcome of the article, the Expression of Concern may be replaced with a Retraction notice or Correction.

## Sharing Your Published Article

At ACS Publications, we know it is important for you to be able to share your peer reviewed, published work with colleagues in the global community of scientists. As sharing on sites known as scholarly collaboration networks (SCNs) is becoming increasingly prevalent in today's scholarly research ecosystem, we would like to remind you of the many ways in which you, a valued ACS author, can [share your published work](#).

Publishing open access makes it easy to share your work with friends, colleagues, and family members. In addition, ACS Publications makes it easy to share your newly published research with ACS Articles on Request (see below). Don't forget to promote your research and related data on social media, at conferences, and through scholarly communication networks. Increase the impact of your research using the following resources: [Altmetrics](#), [Figshare](#), [ACS Certified Deposit](#)

## E-Prints

When your article is published in an ACS journal or partner journal, corresponding authors are provided with a link that offers up to 50 free digital prints of the final published work. This link is valid for the first 12 months following online publication, and can be shared via email or an author's website. After one year, the access restrictions to your article will be lifted, and you can share the [Articles on Request](#) URL on social media and other channels. To access all your Articles on Request links, log in to your ACS Researcher Resources account and visit the "My Published Manuscripts" page.

## Reprints

[Article](#), [journal](#), and [commercial](#) reprints are available to order.

## Appendix 1: PREPARING FOR SUBMISSION

We've developed ACS' publishing and editorial policies in consultation with the research communities that we serve, including authors and librarians. Browse our policies below to learn more.

## Ethical Guidelines

ACS editors have provided [Ethical Guidelines](#) for persons engaged in the publication of chemical research—specifically, for editors, authors, and reviewers. Each journal also has a specific [policy on prior publication](#).

## OFAC Compliance

As a U.S.-based non-profit organization, the American Chemical Society (ACS) is required to comply with U.S. sanctions laws and regulations administered by the [U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control](#) (OFAC). While these laws and regulations permit U.S.-based publishers like ACS to engage in publishing-related activities with authors located in sanctioned regions in many cases, ACS may be prohibited under U.S. law from engaging in publishing-related activities in some cases, including, but not limited to, instances where an author or the institution with which an author is affiliated is located in a particular sanctioned region or has been designated by OFAC as a [Specially Designated National](#) (SDN) pursuant to certain U.S. sanctions programs. ACS reserves the right to refrain from engaging in any publishing-related activities that ACS determines in its sole discretion may be in violation of U.S. law.

## Safety Considerations

Authors must emphasize any unexpected, new, and/or significant hazards or risks associated with the reported work. This information should be in the Experimental Section of a full article and included in the main text of a letter. Statement examples can be found in the [Safety Statement Style Sheet](#) and additional information on communicating safety information from the *ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication* [is freely available here](#).

## Conflict of Interest Disclosure

A statement describing any financial conflicts of interest or lack thereof is published in each ACS journal and partner journal article.

During the submission process, the Corresponding Author must provide a statement on behalf of all authors of the manuscript, describing all potential sources of bias, including affiliations, funding sources, and financial or management relationships, that may constitute conflicts of interest. If the manuscript is accepted, the statement will be published in the final article.

If the manuscript is accepted and no conflict of interest has been declared, the following statement will be published in the final article: "The authors declare no competing financial interest."

## Plagiarism

In publishing only original research, ACS is committed to deterring plagiarism, including self-plagiarism. ACS Publications uses CrossCheck's iThenticate software to screen submitted manuscripts for similarity to published material. Note that your manuscript may be screened during the submission process.

Further information about plagiarism can be found in Part B of the [Ethical Guidelines to Publication of Chemical Research](#). See also the [press release](#) regarding ACS' participation in the CrossCheck initiative.

## Authorship, Author List, and Coauthor Notification

Authors are required to obtain the consent of all their coauthors prior to submitting a manuscript. The submitting author accepts the responsibility of notifying all coauthors that the manuscript is being submitted.

During manuscript submission, the submitting author must provide contact information (full name, email address, institutional affiliation, and mailing address) for all of the coauthors. Because all of the author names are automatically imported into the electronic [Journal Publishing Agreement](#), the names must be entered into ACS Paragon Plus. (Note that coauthors are not required to register in ACS Paragon Plus.) Author affiliation should reflect where the work was completed, even if the author has since left that institution. Authors may include a note with a current address if their institution has changed since the work was completed.

To expedite the processing of your manuscript, please format your author and affiliation information according the guidelines in this link:

<https://pubsapp.acs.org/paragonplus/submission/author-address-information.pdf>.

Criteria for authorship can be found in Part B of the [Ethical Guidelines to Publication of Chemical Research](#). Artificial intelligence (AI) tools do not qualify for authorship. The use of AI tools for text or image generation should be disclosed in the manuscript within the Acknowledgment section with a description of when and how the tools were used. For more substantial use cases or descriptions of AI tool use, authors should provide full details within the Methods or other appropriate section of the manuscript.

If any change in authorship is necessary after a manuscript has been submitted, confirmation is required that all of the authors (including those being added or removed) have been notified and have agreed to the change. To provide this confirmation, authors are asked to complete and sign an [authorship change form](#) and provide the completed form to the appropriate editorial office.

**Authors with a single name:** If you, or any of your coauthors, have only one name, please follow these steps for proper submission to ACS Paragon Plus:

1. First (Given) Name Field: Enter an asterisk (\*) into the "First (Given) Name" field.
2. Last (Family) Name Field: Enter your single name into the "Last (Family) Name" field.

If your paper is accepted, the asterisk (\*) will be removed from the published version of the paper.

## Patent Activities and Intellectual Property

Authors are responsible for ensuring that all patent activities and intellectual property issues are satisfactorily resolved prior to first publication (ASAP or in issue). Acceptance and publication will not be delayed for pending or unresolved issues of this nature.

## Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID)

Authors submitting manuscript revisions are required to provide their own personal, validated ORCID iD before completing the submission, if an ORCID iD is not already associated with their ACS Paragon Plus user profiles. This ID may be provided during original manuscript submission



or when submitting the manuscript revision. All authors are strongly encouraged to register for an ORCID iD, a unique researcher identifier. The ORCID iD will be displayed in the published article for any author on a manuscript who has a validated ORCID iD associated with ACS when the manuscript is accepted.

ORCID iDs should not be typed into the manuscript. ACS publishes only those ORCID iDs that have been properly verified and linked **before the manuscript is accepted**. After your ORCID iD is linked, it will be displayed automatically in all subsequently accepted manuscripts for any/all ACS journals. We do not publish ORCID iDs provided during proof review or via other communications after a manuscript is accepted for publication.

With an ORCID iD, you can create a profile of your research activities to distinguish yourself from other researchers with similar names, and make it easier for your colleagues to find your publications. If you do not yet have an ORCID iD, or you wish to associate your existing ORCID iD with your ACS Paragon Plus account, you may do so by clicking on “Edit Your Profile” from your ACS Paragon Plus account homepage and following the ORCID-related links. Learn more at [www.orcid.org](http://www.orcid.org).

## Copyright and Permissions

To obtain forms and guidelines for completing the Journal Publishing Agreement or obtaining permissions from copyright owners, and to explore a Copyright Learning Module for chemists, click [here](#).

## Funder Reporting Requirement

Authors are [required to report funding sources](#) and grant/award numbers. Enter **ALL** sources of funding for **ALL** authors in **BOTH** the Funder Registry Tool in ACS Paragon Plus and in your manuscript to meet this requirement.

## Open Access Compliance

ACS offers options by which authors can fulfill the requirements for open access and deposition into repositories for funded research. Visit our ACS Open Science site to see [how to fulfill requirements for specific funders](#) and to find out if you are eligible to publish under a [Read + Publish agreement](#) between ACS and your institution. You can also find out more about [Open Access Compliance](#) and [ACS Open Science initiatives](#).

## Diversity and Inclusion Statement

During manuscript submission, ACS journal authors have the option to submit a statement sharing information related to diversity and inclusion that is relevant for their paper. If supplying a diversity and inclusion statement, the corresponding author must provide this on behalf of all authors of the manuscript during the submission process. These statements include but are not limited to analysis of citation diversity and acknowledgment of indigenous land on which research was conducted. Statements expressing political beliefs are not permitted and may be removed by the journal office. All statements are subject to final review by the Editor.

- **Citation Diversity Statement:** The citation diversity statement should appear in the Acknowledgements section of the manuscript. ACS recommends including the following: (1) the importance of citation diversity, (2) the proportion of citations by gender and race/ethnicity

for the first and last authors, (3) the method used to determine those proportions and its limitations, and (4) steps taken to by the authors to improve citation diversity in the article. We recognize that one limitation of the current methods is that it cannot account for intersex, non-binary, and transgender people, or Indigenous and mixed-race authors. (Adapted from [BMES/Springer Guidelines](#))

- **Land acknowledgment:**The land acknowledgment statement should appear in the Acknowledgements section of the manuscript. The statement should link to the institutions' formal land acknowledgments on which the research took place, if possible. Further guidance for creating these statements can be found here: <https://nativegov.org/news/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment/>.

## Appendix 2: Preparing Graphics

### Resolution

Digital graphics pasted into manuscripts should have the following minimum resolutions:

- Black and white line art, 1200 dpi
- Grayscale art, 600 dpi
- Color art, 300 dpi

### Size

Graphics must fit a one- or two-column format. Single-column graphics can be sized up to 240 points wide (3.33 in.) and double-column graphics must be sized between 300 and 504 points (4.167 in. and 7 in.). The maximum depth for all graphics is 660 points (9.167 in.) including the caption (allow 12 pts. For each line of caption text). Lettering should be no smaller than 4.5 points in the final published format. The text should be legible when the graphic is viewed full-size. Helvetica or Arial fonts work well for lettering. Lines should be no thinner than 0.5 point.

### Color

Color may be used to enhance the clarity of complex structures, figures, spectra, and schemes, etc., and color reproduction of graphics is provided at no additional cost to the author. Graphics intended to appear in black and white or grayscale should not be submitted in color.

### Type of Graphics

#### Table of Contents (TOC)/Abstract Graphic

Consult the Guidelines for [Table of Contents/Abstract Graphics](#) for specifications.

Our team of subject-matter experts and graphical designers can also help generate a compelling TOC graphic to convey your key findings. Learn more about our [Graphical Abstract service](#).

### Figures

A caption giving the figure number and a brief description must be included below each figure. The

caption should be understandable without reference to the text. It is preferable to place any key to symbols used in the artwork itself, not in the caption. Ensure that any symbols and abbreviations used in the text agree with those in the artwork.

## Charts

Charts (groups of structures that do not show reactions) may have a brief caption describing their contents.

## Tables

Each table must have a brief (one phrase or sentence) title that describes the contents. The title should be understandable without reference to the text. Details should be put in footnotes, not in the title. Tables should be used when the data cannot be presented clearly in the narrative, when many numbers must be presented, or when more meaningful inter-relationships can be conveyed by the tabular format. Tables should supplement, not duplicate, information presented in the text and figures. Tables should be simple and concise.

## Schemes

Each scheme (sequences of reactions) may have a brief caption describing its contents.

## Chemical Structures

Chemical structures should be produced with the use of a drawing program such as ChemDraw.

## Cover Art

*Polymer Science & Technology* authors are encouraged to submit images to be considered for use on the journal's front cover or [Supplementary Covers](#) at the time of the submission of their revised manuscript. If your article is accepted for publication, your suggestion may also be selected for use on one of the journal's covers. If your art is selected for front cover, ACS will send you information about how to request one complimentary 18" by 24" printed poster featuring your work. Images chosen for the front cover will be published at no cost to the author.

Cover image submissions should be colorful and visually engaging, with minimal text. The cover image should not resemble a graphical abstract or data figure but rather should be an artistic and scientifically accurate representation of the manuscript.

Image files should be submitted as TIF, JPG, PNG, or EPS files (not PDF or PPT) with a resolution of at least 300 dpi for pixel-based images. Cover art should be 8.19 inches (20.80 cm) wide x 10 inches (25.4 cm) high at 300 ppi, and submission of "layered" artwork is encouraged. The journal's logo will obscure the top 2.5 inches (6.35 cm) of the image. Authors should submit the cover image, along with a short (<50-word), clear legend explaining the image, as supplementary files to ACS Paragon Plus with their revised manuscript.

If you wish to be considered only for the front cover, and not a paid supplementary cover, please respond NO accordingly to the Supplementary Cover Art question in ACS Paragon Plus. For more information on the Supplementary Covers program, please see [this webpage](#). All art submitted for

consideration for a supplementary cover will also be considered for a front cover.

## **Web Enhanced Objects (WEO)**

The Web editions of ACS journals allow readers to view multimedia attachments such as animations and movies that complement understanding of the research being reported.

WEOs should be uploaded in ACS Paragon Plus with 'Web Enhanced Object' selected as the file designation. Consult the list of [compatible WEO formats](#).