

Assessing Revised Manuscripts

Process

- When authors submit a revised manuscript, staff editors will contact you by email from the discussion in [Editorial Manager](#) (EM) for an assessment of the revised submission and the response-to-reviewers. We expect to receive your feedback **within a week** in the EM discussion.
- We aim to avoid another round of peer review whenever possible, and ask that you assess the revisions and arbitrate them directly if you are able.
- If you can assess the responses to some reviewers but not others, we can engage a subset of the original panel to re-review.
- Please see below for a range of possible outcomes at this stage

Making an Editorial Decision After Revision

Based on your assessment of the response to reviewers, you can recommend one of the following options:

Decision Options	Render this decision if...	What happens next
Editorial Acceptance	You feel that the reviewers' concerns have been addressed in full – except anything that we might have overruled in our previous decision.	The manuscript is sent to production and published.

	<p>The manuscript will undergo further checks to ensure reporting and format are appropriate, but it is scientifically ready.</p>	
<p>Minor revision</p>	<p>The manuscript is in principle suitable for publication but needs some minor changes that will usually be assessed by the staff editor (but you can request to see it).</p>	<p>You usually sign off at this stage, as the changes required are small. The study will go back to the authors for revision, and the staff editors can assess the author responses.</p>
<p>Further peer-review</p>	<p>By a subset or all of the original reviewers. As we cannot guarantee that the same reviewers will be available, if there is a particular aspect that you feel is essential that reviewers assess, please let us know.</p> <p>If the revisions have added the need for other expertise (or a subject area was not adequately assessed previously), you may request additional reviewers, although this is something we</p>	<p>The staff editor will send the manuscript for re-review and oversee the process.</p> <p>They will be back in touch once the reviewer reports are received and this then becomes a “decision post peer-review”. Please refer to that information sheet.</p>

	avoid wherever possible.	
Rejection without further review	<p>If the authors have failed to address the reviewers' concerns (when recommending rejection, please comment on whether you think this paper would be suitable for another PLOS journal).</p> <p>In rare cases, we might open another round of major revision here, but only if we have reason to believe that the authors will not tackle the issues they did not address before.</p>	The manuscript will be returned to the authors so they can pursue publication elsewhere.

Need help?

Contact the specific staff editor that is handling the manuscript and has emailed you or plosbiology@plos.org – if you have general queries unrelated to a specific manuscript

More [Resources for Editors](#)