November 1, 2026

Submission Rules
for
the Journal of Intellectual Property Association of Japan

[1] Purpose of the Journal

[1.1] The Journal of the Intellectual Property Association of Japan (IPAJ) is a peer-reviewed interdisciplinary academic journal that covers themes relating to intellectual property (IP) and its utilization. While aiming to promote a further understanding of the role of IP and IP systems, the Journal also serves as a forum to facilitate the exchange of and sharing ideas and information between researchers in the field of law, economics, management and natural sciences, engineers, management personnel, lawyers and government officials.

[2] Notes and requirements

[2.1] Language: Any manuscript to be submitted shall be unpublished one written in English.
[2.2] Eligibility: In principle, manuscripts for the Journal shall be submitted by a member of the IPAJ. In the event of a joint manuscript, the primary author shall be a member of the IPAJ. It is preferred that all authors are members of the IPAJ.
[2.3] Copyright
[2.3.1] Copyright for a submitted manuscript shall remain the property of its author.
[2.3.2] The author of a submitted manuscript shall grant the IPAJ a license to use its manuscript or its content in whatever form. However, such license shall not extend to the moral right of author.
[2.3.3] The license set forth in the preceding sub-paragraph shall be deemed in effect upon receipt of the manuscript. However, when the IPAJ has decided to reject the manuscript as submitted, the license shall be deemed cancelled as of the time of rejection.
[2.3.4] The author (or a person who submitted a manuscript) shall be responsible for any disputes, when and if such disputes arise out of or in connection with use in his/her manuscript of existing copyrights of others by way of quotations, reproduction, etc...
[2.4] Dual submission
[2.4.1] A manuscript of identical content shall not have been submitted to or published in another academic journal or industry magazine.
[2.5] Procedures and precautions for submission
[2.5.1] When submitting a manuscript for publication, its author shall send e-mail with the following attachments:

a) copy of application form (application forms are downloadable from the IPAJ Website)
https://www.ipaj.org/bulletin/
b) copy of the manuscript in MS Word format (please indicate the version in a cover message) and also as the MS Word document converted into a PDF file

[2.5.2] The e-mail should be sent to the IPAJ Administration Office:

submission@ipaj.org

The subject line should read:

"Manuscript Submission Enclosed"

[2.5.3] There are no particular requirements for the document style of the initial submission. However authors are requested to follow the Authors' Guides thereby to maintain anonymity through the process of reviewing. When a paper submitted is accepted, its author shall be required to format the paper in accordance with the style sheet sent out by the Administration Office.

[2.5.4] Applicants are advised to keep one copy of their manuscript for their own records before submission to the Administration Office.

[2.6] Date of receipt: Any manuscript upon submission shall be deemed to have been received on the date when the e-mail has arrived. Upon receipt, the Administration Office will send back the e-mail for acknowledgment. In absence of acknowledgment for two weeks from the submission, an applicant should contact the Administration Office to confirm receipt. The date of acceptance shall be the date on which the manuscript is accepted by the editorial committee of the JIPA for publication.

[3] Authors' guides

[3.1] In general, there are no predetermined types of manuscripts for submission. However, it should be noted that any accepted manuscript shall be published as either a [Note] or a [Case]. Categorization shall depend on content and each author shall receive a prior notification of the categorization.

[3.2] The first page shall be a cover sheet followed by the body of the manuscript commencing from the second page.

[3.3] The cover sheet shall contain the following information.

Title

Affiliation and contact information

Name of the author(s)

Affiliated institution / Department / Title

Contact telephone number

Contact e-mail address

Abstract (within 200 English words.) The total number of characters and words shall be clearly indicated.)

Keywords (no more than 5 each.)
Academic field /
Research field

[3.4] In order to maintain anonymity, information that may be used to identify an author of a submitted manuscript shall not be contained in its body. An author shall also avoid using citations which refers to the author such as “A’s book (2002)”, and “A’s paper (1995)".

[3.5] A manuscript shall be up to 15,000 words in length.

[3.6] Figures and tables shall have reference numbers and be included at the end of the manuscript. The figures and tables shall be identified in the body of the manuscript, for example, Figure 1 and Table 2.

[3.7] Cited literature and references shall be compiled in a list at the end of the text body in the alphabetical order of the primary author’s name. Manuscripts or articles submitted by the same author shall be ordered according to the publication year. If multiple manuscripts or articles are published during the same year by the same author, the publication year shall be marked with an alphabet suffix to distinguish them from one another; e.g., "1999a", "1999b", etc.

[3.8] References cited in the text body shall be marked with annotations or be quoted by citing the last name of the author along with the year of publication in Arabic numerals to be placed inside a parenthesis; e.g., "Nonaka (1976)" or "Imai, Nonaka, and Takeuchi (1985)". If there are two authors, both names shall continue to be noted as "Nonaka and Takeuchi (1995)" beyond the second citation. If there are more than three authors, they shall be noted as "Imai et al. (1985)", using the primary author's name followed by "et al." beyond the second citation. In the parenthesis, the author's name and year shall be separated by a comma for each cited material, and if there are multiple citations they shall be listed by alphabetical order according to the primary author’s name punctuated by a semi colon; e.g., "(Imai, Nonaka, and Takeuchi, 1985; Nonaka and Takeuchi, 1986)".

[3.9] References cited in footnotes shall also be included in the list of cited literature and references at the end of the text body.

[3.10] Acknowledgments and notes on the author shall be listed separately.

[4] Review

[4.1] Review system

[4.1.1] In general, review of a submitted manuscript is carried out by two anonymous referees who shall be appointed by the editorial committee upon recommendation from committee members.

[4.2] Results of the review shall be either of 1) Acceptance; 2) Conditional acceptance (subject to minor modifications); 3) Recommendation for re-submission (subject to major modifications); or 4) Rejection.

[4.2.1] Acceptance

[4.2.1.1] Upon determination of acceptance, the author shall be so notified and required to promptly

send an electronic data file of the final draft for publication to the Administration Office of the IPAJ. When doing so, the author shall be required to indicate the version of the word processing software used.

[4.2.1.2] Once the manuscript has been accepted, only minor changes will be allowed for refining descriptions and styles. No addition of extra analyses etc. shall be allowed.

[4.2.2] Conditional acceptance

[4.2.2.1] Upon determination of conditional acceptance, an author shall be so notified and required to re-submit a final draft of his/her manuscript to the Administration Office with changes to the extent required.

[4.2.3] Recommendation for re-submission

[4.2.3.1] When a re-submitted manuscript is accepted, the author shall be required to submit an electronic data file of the final manuscript containing the necessary changes specified by members of the editorial committee.

[4.2.3.2] The author shall also be required to supply a List of Modifications specifying what changes were made and where.

[4.2.4] Rejection

[4.2.4.1] Once acceptance has been denied, an author cannot submit the same manuscript to the Journal of the IPAJ again.

[4.3] Publication

[4.3.1] In general, the order of publication is on a “first come, first served” basis. However, for editorial reasons, even an earlier-accepted manuscript may be carried over to a later edition. In such a case, each author of such manuscript shall be duly informed in advance.

[4.3.2] Manuscripts are published in the Journal of IPAJ and on the Website.

[4.4] Fees and royalties

[4.4.1] Publication in the Journal of the IPAJ is free of charges. The IPAJ shall not pay the authors of the papers any royalty.

[4.5] Reprints of Edited Articles

[4.5.1] PDF data shall be provided to the author.

[4.5.2] An author shall be allowed to obtain a reprint of an edited article as published in the journal based on his/her manuscript. In such case, the author shall state the number of copies desired upon submission of the final draft and bear the necessary cost for the reprints.

This submission rule is subject to change. For possible changes and revisions, please visit the IPAJ Website; https://www.ipaj.org