

Peer Review Policy on CALPHAD

The practice of peer review is to ensure that good science is published. It is an objective process at the heart of good scholarly publishing and is carried out on all reputable scientific journals. Our referees therefore play a vital role in maintaining the high standards of CALPHAD and all manuscripts are peer reviewed following the procedure outlined below. Special issues and/or conference proceedings may have different peer review procedures involving, for example, Guest Editors, conference organisers or scientific committees. Authors contributing to these projects receive full details of the peer review process on request from the editorial office.

Initial manuscript evaluation

The Editor first evaluates all manuscripts. It is rare, but it is entirely feasible for an exceptional manuscript to be accepted at this stage. Those rejected at this stage are insufficiently original, have serious scientific flaws, have poor grammar or English language, or are outside the aims and scope of the journal. Those that meet the minimum criteria are passed on to at least two experts for review. Authors of manuscripts rejected at this stage will be informed within 2 weeks of receipt.

Type of peer review

This journal employs single blind review, i.e. the referee remains anonymous throughout the process.

How the referee is selected

Referees are matched to the paper according to their expertise. Our database is constantly being updated. We welcome suggestions for referees from the author though these recommendations may or may not be used.

Referee reports

Referees are asked to evaluate whether the manuscript:

- Is original
- Is methodologically sound
- Follows appropriate ethical guidelines
- Has results which are clearly presented and support the conclusions
- Correctly references previous relevant work

Referees are not expected to correct or edit manuscripts. Language correction is not part of the peer review process.

How long does the review process take?

Typically the manuscript will be reviewed within one month. Should the referees' reports contradict one another or a report be unnecessarily delayed, a further expert opinion may be sought. Revised manuscripts should be submitted within three weeks and are usually returned to the initial referees. Revised manuscripts are considered withdrawn if not submitted within 6 months. Referees are informed on all revisions of a manuscript. Authors may request the status of a manuscript during the review process by e-mailing editor@calphad.org.

Final report

A final decision to accept or reject the manuscript will be sent to the author along with any recommendations made by the referees, and may include verbatim comments by the referees.

Editor's decision is final

Referees advise the Editor, who is responsible for the final decision to accept or reject the article.

Becoming a referee for CALPHAD

If you would like to be added to the list of referees for CALPHAD journal, please e-mail editor@calphad.org. Your contribution to the journal is highly appreciated.