

## How do you become a scientific editor?

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Do you love science but feel that a career at the bench is not satisfying your desire to learn more about the natural world? Do you enjoy critically analyzing papers outside your field of expertise? Do you find purpose in serving the scientific community?

If the answer is "yes" to any of these questions, you could be a perfect fit for a career in scientific editing.

A typical day as a scientific editor involves assessing submitted research papers, finding proper reviewers for manuscripts, making editorial decisions on manuscripts, establishing and maintaining relationships with researchers, attending scientific meetings, and much more that's complementary to this work. For example, an editor could work on cross-journal initiatives, improving author experience, or diversity, equity, and inclusion strategies.

Depending on the journal and the publisher, editors may or may not be a full-time employees. Those journals or publishing companies that hire professional scientific editors are looking for candidates that are experts in at least one of the fields that the journal covers, which requires a PhD in relevant scientific disciplines. What the company wants is for you to have a broad interest in science and a willingness to learn. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are what makes an editor successful in doing their jobs. But beyond these key skills, what else can you do to land your dream editor job?