**Preparing Manuscripts to Submit to JRRE**

*Journal of Research in Rural Education* (ISSN 1551-0670) was established in 1982 by the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development. Since January, 2008 JRRE has been housed and published out of the *Center on Rural Education and Communities*, located within Penn State University’s College of Education.

We welcome single-study investigations, historical and philosophical analyses, research syntheses, theoretical pieces, and policy analyses from multiple disciplinary and methodological perspectives. Manuscripts may address a variety of issues including (but not limited to): the interrelationships between rural schools and communities; the sociological, historical, and economic context of rural education; rural education and community development; learning and instruction; pre-service and in-service teacher education; educational leadership, and; educational policy.

Manuscripts should follow the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (Sixth Edition)*. Although JRRE imposes no limitations on length, the typical JRRE article is equivalent to 20-30 manuscript pages (double-spaced), not including tables, figures and references. Each manuscript is reviewed by the editor and, blindly, by up to three additional readers. The latter are either JRRE editorial board members or selected at large. Editorial decisions are typically reached within three months or less.

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The following comments are intended to assist prospective authors in determining whether JRRE is an appropriate outlet for a particular article, and in preparing a manuscript for submission to JRRE.

**Is JRRE a Good Fit For My Work?**

Before deciding to submit a manuscript to the *Journal of Research in Rural Education*, please take the time to review previously published articles appearing in the journal. This is critical for both gaining a more complete understanding of the journal’s scope as well as the fit of your manuscript with the journal.

Citing work that has previously appeared in JRRE is certainly not a prerequisite for a positive evaluation of a submitted article. However, our experience has been that
manuscripts without references to work previously published in JRRE often demonstrate an incomplete familiarity with the rural education research literature and/or the substantive scope of the journal. We encourage authors to consult Coladarci’s article, *Improving the yield of rural education research: An editor’s swan song* (*JRRE*, 2007, vol. 22, no. 3), which contains some excellent observations about rural education research and, by extension, the type of articles most of interest to JRRE.

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To submit work for review at JRRE, please email your manuscript, formatted as a single Microsoft Word document, to Karen Eppley, acting JRRE editor, at keh118@psu.edu. Your manuscript should consist of a cover sheet with the title and information on authorship, followed by the abstract, the body of the paper, any charts, tables and/or figures (if applicable), followed finally by a list of references. The manuscript should use 12 point font (preferably Times New Roman) with one-inch margins, and should be double-spaced throughout except in the case of tables, charts and figures.

**Cover Sheet**

The cover sheet should have the title of the manuscript as well as the names and institutional affiliations of all authors. The lead/contact author should be indicated, with contact information for that person, including email address, postal address and phone number. The cover sheet should also include a statement confirming that the submission has not been published elsewhere, is not presently under review elsewhere, and will not be submitted elsewhere while under review for JRRE. For research involving human subjects, also confirm that an Institutional Review Board either approved the investigation or deemed it exempt from further review.

**Abstract**

The abstract should be separated from the cover sheet by a page break. The title should appear at the top of the page, followed by the text of the abstract. The abstract should briefly summarize the paper’s purpose, methodology and findings in the form of a single paragraph no longer than 200 words. Page numbering should start on the abstract page. Page numbers should appear in the upper right corner.
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Authors should remove any references within the body of the paper that might identify authorship. The body of the paper should follow the abstract, separated from the abstract page by a page break. First order section headings should be center-justified with appropriate words capitalized. Second-order headings should be left-justified and italicized, with appropriate words capitalized.

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References

References should follow the body of the article or any tables and figures. References should be separated from other parts of the paper by a page break, and should follow the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th Ed.). The list of references should be complete and accurately formatted.

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