Submit manuscript online via ADS. Authors must suggest three potential reviewers in the submission form.

Upon receipt, OSA staff does initial quality check of manuscript to ensure submission is complete. A title search will identify resubmissions. OSA strongly discourages resubmitting rejected papers to other OSA journals.

Manuscript undergoes an initial quality/relevance assessment by the editor. Editor may reject the manuscript or suggest another journal for publication if it does not meet quality standards or is outside the topic scope.

Editor selects a topical/associate editor who then works to obtain two anonymous expert reviewers.

Reviewers are allowed time to complete their review and submit comments to the editor.

Reviewer recommendations include: accept, require revisions, reject, or refer to a more appropriate journal. Reviewers provide constructive comments to help authors produce a better manuscript.

Editor makes a publication decision based on the reviews and sends out decision letter via ADS. If manuscript is rejected, before resubmitting elsewhere, act on the reviewers’ reports to improve the paper.

If manuscript needs revisions, OSA staff include required style/format changes with the decision letter.

Authors may resubmit after revisions have been made (use a cover letter to explain each change, point-by-point). Editor decides whether to accept revised manuscript or refer it back to reviewers for further comment. Editor makes final decision.

If accepted, manuscript moves to the production process. [Applied Optics, JOSA A, JOSA B, OL accepted manuscripts are accessible in each journal’s Early Posting web site until final article is published.]