



**REVIEWER  
CREDITS**

# **Peer Review Training for Researchers and Reviewers in Asia**

27<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**Dr Gareth Dyke & Catherine Anderson**

# What do you think?

Do you know the proportion /  
percentage of reviewers who  
have never received any training  
in peer review?



(Feel free to write your guesses in the  
chat)

# Did you know?

**About 40% of reviewers have never received formal training?**

(Source: Publons "[Global State of Peer Review](#)" 2018)

- Expected to just 'know how' to perform peer review
- Train 'on the job'
- Leads to a HUGE variation in quality / utility for editors
- Not part of university evaluations

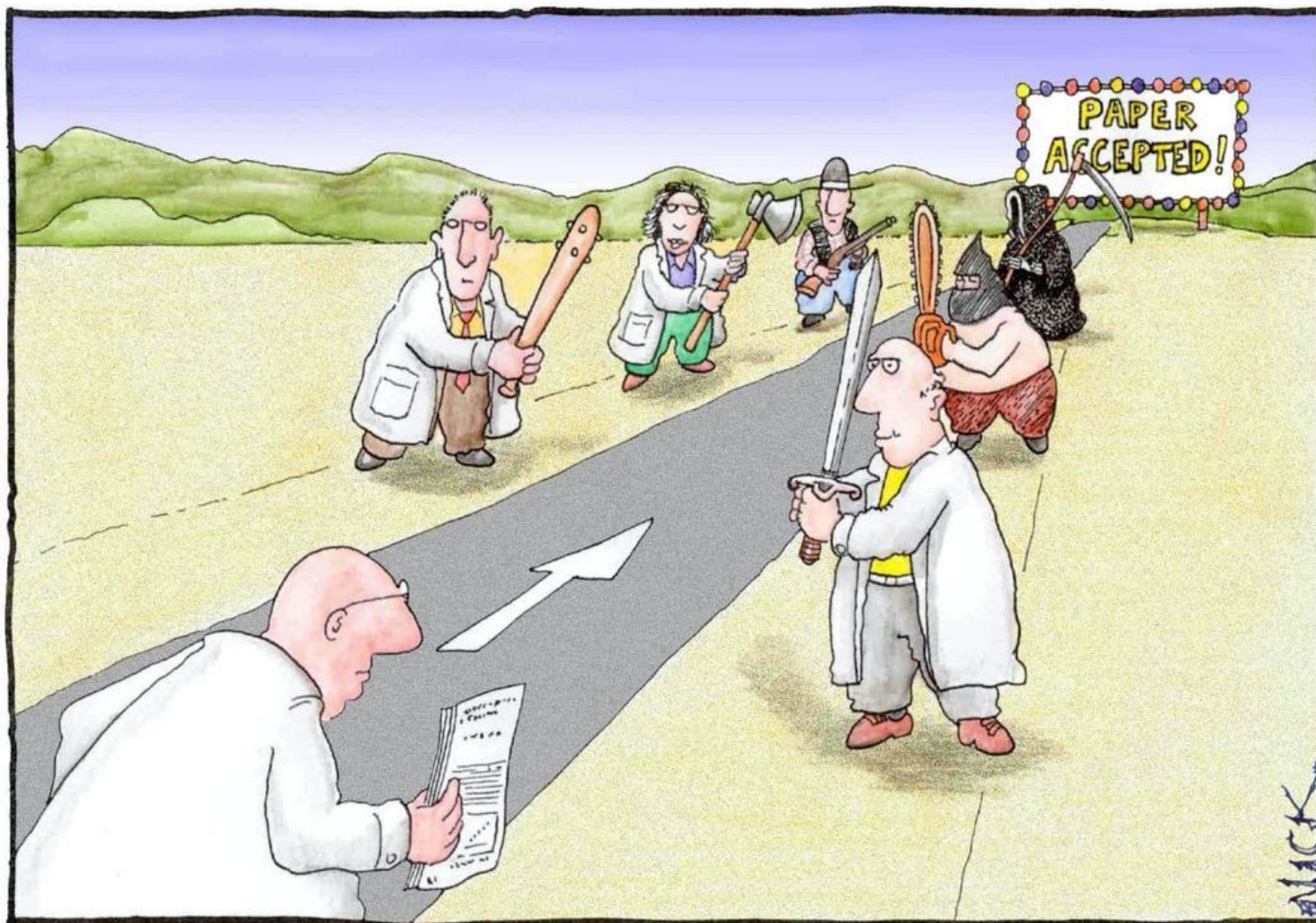
**The bulk of journal editors globally  
(and almost all editorial board members)  
are full-time working academics**

- Publisher-specific training might be provided
- What about industry-wide trends and new developments (e.g., AI tools, paper mills, publishing ethics, research on peer review)?





# What is the main function of peer review?



Peer review **filters**  
and **improves**  
content for  
researchers

Most scientists regarded the new streamlined peer-review process as "quite an improvement."

# Meet Our Heroes! Defenders of Scientific Truth



## THE AUTHOR

wants to publish and make an impact on the scientific world



## THE REVIEWER

is like a 'detective' investigating the author's claims



## THE EDITOR

is overwhelmed with duties and deadlines!

## Perceptions of peer review

“ The peer review process explained:  
Different forms / Values in  
the academic community ”

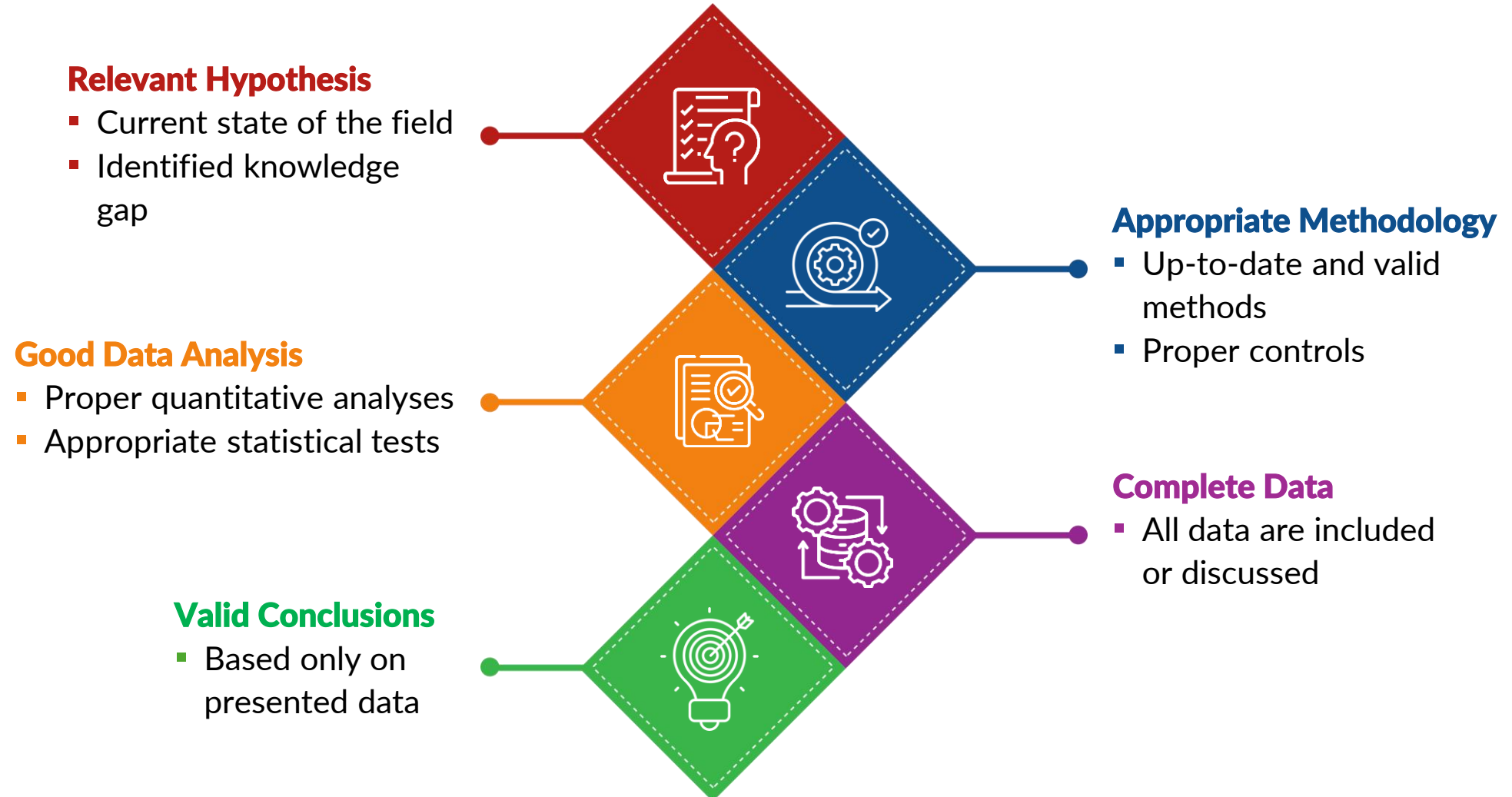
- Peer review is a positive process
- Improves your manuscript
- Advances the field
- Become involved in the peer review process
  - Obligation as a researcher in the community
  - Improves your manuscript writing

*“The process used to judge the quality of academic papers submitted for publication in scholarly journals”*

*“Peer reviewed papers are thought to be reliable because they have undergone this process before publication”*



# What are peer reviewers checking for?



# Editor's view: what makes a good reviewer?

## A good reviewer...

- Provides a comprehensive report
- Submits the report on time
- Provides well-founded comments for authors
- Gives constructive criticism
- Demonstrates objectivity
- Gives a clear recommendation to the editor

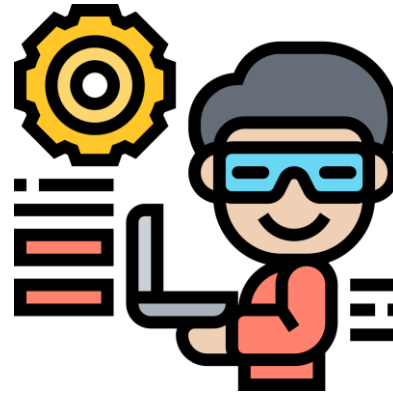




# What about performing peer review?



Any conflicts of interest?  
Do you know the authors?  
Have you worked with them?



Is this your field?  
Do you have the expertise?



Do you have the time?  
Really?

**You've been asked:**

**Should you do a review? Things to consider**  
**Maximize your career potential**

# Understanding peer review as an author vs. as a reviewer

## AS AN AUTHOR:

Enhance article's chances  
of acceptance  
More effectively respond  
to comments



## AS A REVIEWER:

Comment constructively on the  
work of others  
Develop a key transferable skill  
(performing peer review)

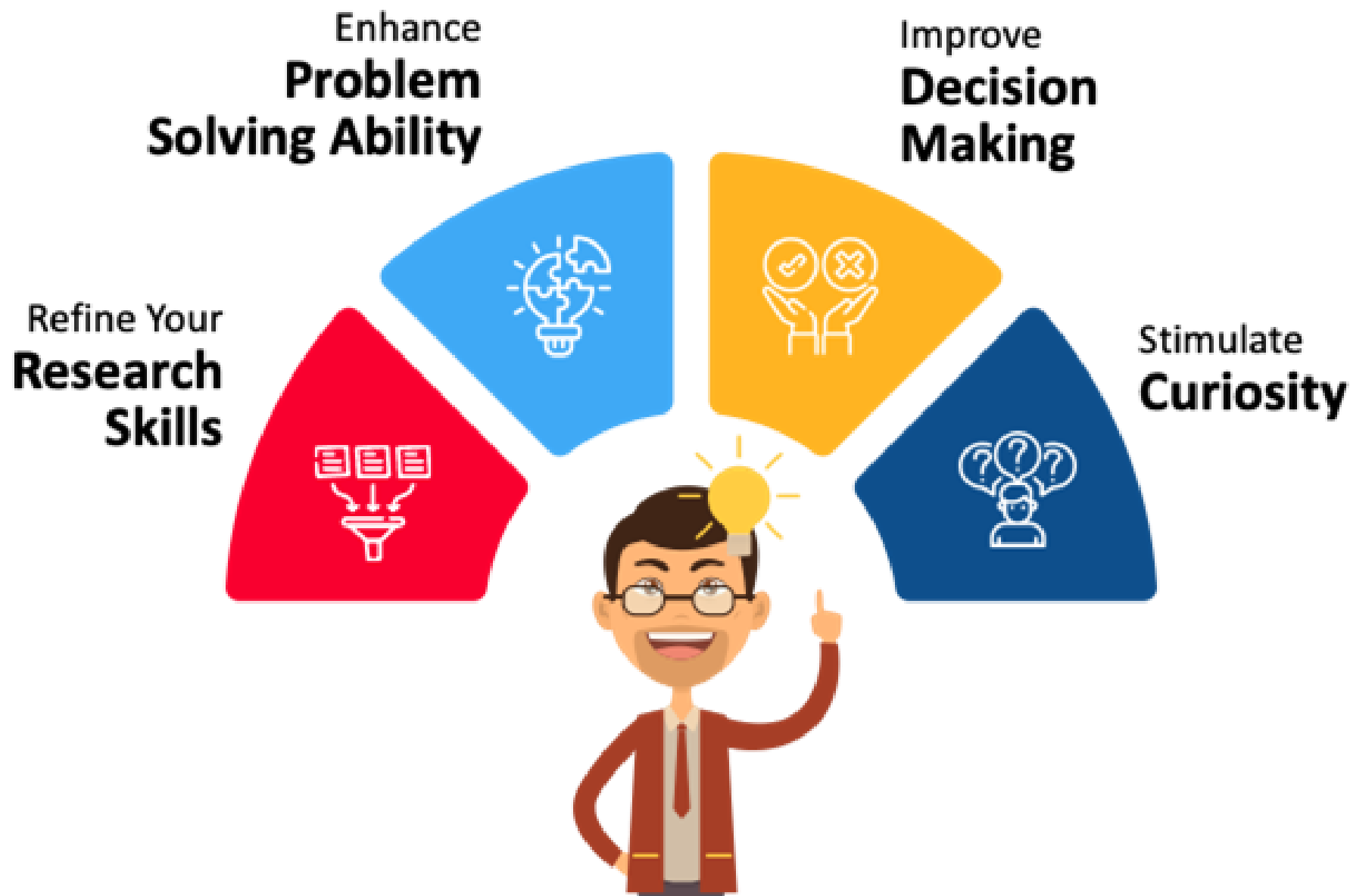
# Identifying strengths, not just weaknesses

- Are the paper's **claims supported by appropriate evidence**?
- Is the **main point** or take-away of the paper clearly **articulated**?
- Are **the relevance and significance** of the research **explained**?
- Are potential **counterarguments or objections acknowledged** and addressed?





# Skills we can gain from peer review



# Reviewers' report – dos and don'ts

- **DO** provide specific references to text within the manuscript or references to the literature to support your comments/critiques.
- **DO** provide detailed commentary if a manuscript has shortcomings that, if corrected, would make it suitable for publication.

- **DON'T** make vague or ambiguous text references or blanket opinionated statements that are not supported by data.
- **DON'T** provide such detail if you recommend that the paper be rejected. A description of the fundamental flaws and uncorrectable shortcomings is sufficient.

# Managing bias & being impartial



THE REVIEWER

Negative results, ugh! Nobody will want to read about something that **doesn't work** – it's just boring!



THE EDITOR

Negative studies **do help to advance the field** by preventing other researchers from attempting the same approach with the same objective.



# Reviewer recognition

## Formal Recognition Platforms and Services

- **Web of Science Reviewer Recognition Service (formerly Publons)**
  - Allows you to record, verify, and showcase your peer review contributions
  - Verified reviews can be linked to your ORCID profile for broader visibility
- **Integrate your peer review activity with your ORCID profile.**
  - Many journal management systems now offer direct integration
  - Display your peer review history on your professional profile

**Web of Science  
Reviewer Recognition  
Service**



# Reviewer recognition

## Journal and Publisher Recognition

- Some journals and publishers offer certificates
- Be acknowledged in annual or special issues of journals, where many publishers list the names of their reviewers as a sign of gratitude and recognition
- Get mentioned alongside the articles you reviewed, especially in journals that practice open or transparent peer review.
- Some publishers offer incentives such as discounts on APCs, free access to journal content for a limited period or free/discounted books



# Reviewer recognition

## Professional Development and Community Engagement

- **Join reviewer recognition platforms**
  - Build a public profile, document your reviewing history, and collect certificates
  - These platforms help editors and other researchers discover your expertise
- **Participate in peer review training programs and obtain certification**
  - Make peer review part of your academic record
- **Engage in post-publication peer review on platforms like PubMed Commons or F1000Research**
  - Make your feedback visible to the research community
  - Helps to build your reputation as a thoughtful reviewer
- **Be included in lists of top reviewers published by journals or on their websites**
  - Especially if you consistently provide high-quality, timely reviews



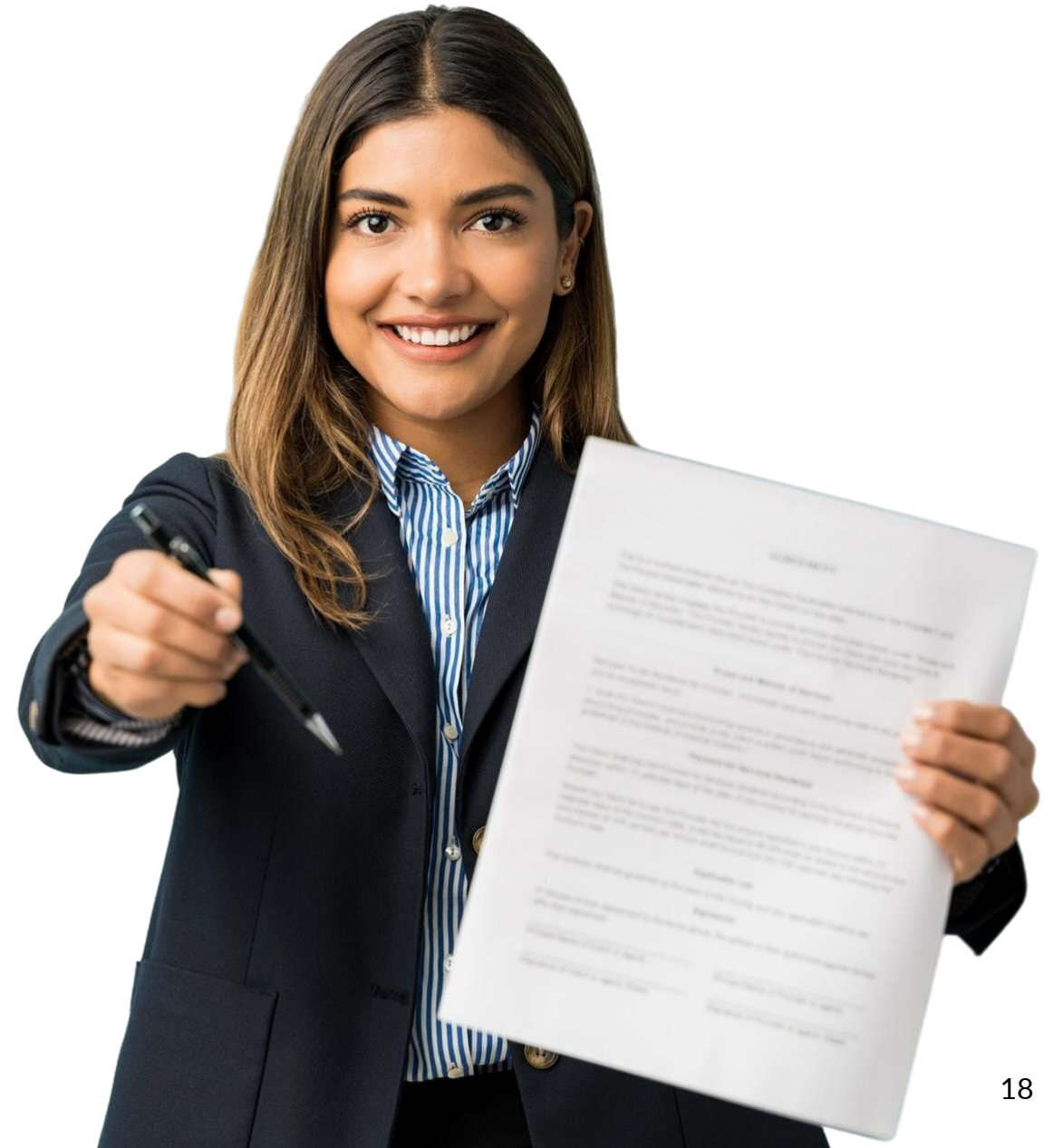


# Reviewer recognition

## Personal and Peer Recognition

- Mention your peer review activities on your CV, LinkedIn, ORCID, or other professional profiles
- Request recommendations from colleagues or senior researchers who can vouch for your reviewing skills and suggest you to journal editors
- Network with editors and researchers at conferences or through academic networks (e.g., ResearchGate, ORCID)

= Increase your chances of being invited to review and recognized for your expertise



# How to build a credible reviewer profile

Join Reviewer Credits and you'll be among tens of thousands of researchers worldwide receiving:




# How to build a credible reviewer profile

SETTINGS   NEWSLETTER   FAQ   CONTACT   LOGOUT   CART

REVIEWER  
CREDITS

My Profile   Redeem credits   Synchronize with ORCID   Crossref integration



Catherine Test (Reviewer) ✓

REGISTERED PEER REVIEWS: [ 13 ] ?

INVITED COLLEAGUES: [ 0 ] ?

TOTAL EARNINGS: [ 0 € ]

REWARDED CREDITS: [ 32 ]

Purchase Reviewer Credits here

My profile   My Reviews   Certificates   Register review   Training Courses   My messages   My Peer Review Requests   Stripe Connect   Recent Transfers   Stripe Identity   Invite Colleagues

Complete the Peer Reviewer Power-Up Course to enhance your skills and contribute effectively to reviewers.

Account

ReviewerCredits membership

Joined July 2, 2024

First Name

Catherine

Title

PhD

Middle initial(s)

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Year of Birth

1971

Secondary email address

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Last Name

Test

Gender

Female

Profile Privacy

Everyone



# How to build a credible reviewer profile

## Set your own parameters in your Reviewer Profile:

- Are you currently available to review?
  - How many engagements per month do you wish to do?
  - Update your current field of research
- = only be contacted when you are available and only on topics relevant to your research expertise

Research	
<b>Academic Status</b>	<b>Primary Research Topic</b>
Early-Career Researcher (Researcher, Assistant Professor, Lecturer, Research Fellow, PostDoc)	Aerospace Engineering
<b>Keywords</b>	<b>Additional topics</b>
Aerospace engineering, Aerospace architecture, Aerospace manufacturing	---
<b>Languages</b>	<b>Editorial Board Position</b>
English	---
<b>Peer Review</b>	
<b>Available for peer review</b>	What other articles you would've liked to review?
Yes	---
<b>How many reviews per month would you like to do?</b>	Journals I don't want to peer review. (Blocklist)
4	---
<b>Number of Peer Reviews Completed</b>	Publishers I don't want to peer review. (Blocklist)
10-49	Elsevier, Wiley
<b>Institution</b>	
<b>Primary Institution</b>	<b>Secondary Institution</b>
Langwedel University	---
<b>Primary Institution Department</b>	<b>Secondary Institution City</b>
---	---
<b>Primary Institution City</b>	<b>Secondary Institution Country</b>
Langwedel	---
<b>Primary Institution Country</b>	

# Register today!

- **As a Reviewer:** <https://www.reviewercredits.com/reviewer-signup/>
- **As a Journal Editor:** <https://www.reviewercredits.com/journal-signup/>
- **As a Publisher:** <https://www.reviewercredits.com/publisher-signup/>



- **Web:** [www.reviewercredits.com](http://www.reviewercredits.com)
- **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/reviewercredits.com/>
- **Bluesky:** <https://bsky.app/profile/reviewercredits.bsky.social>



# Our special offer for webinar participants

- **50% off the Power-Up Course** (single seat) until 31st August 2025
- **Take the course**  
<https://www.reviewercredits.com/courses/peer-reviewer-power-up/>
- Use the code: **rcsummer50**





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# Thank You

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**[www.reviewercredits.com](http://www.reviewercredits.com)**