



INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS, 2026

Economic Geology is an independent journal published by the Society of Economic Geologists, Inc. Papers submitted to the journal will be evaluated on the basis of appropriateness for the journal, suitability of topic, and quality and significance of the research. Do not send manuscripts that have already been published or accepted for publication elsewhere, that reiterate previously published material, or that contain significant material already published in symposium volumes or conference proceedings. Papers that have been previously published or are posted online during the review process will not be accepted for publication. The Editor and members of the Editorial Board will seek competent reviews of papers prior to accepting them for publication or recommending revisions. Responsibility for approval of the paper by all co-authors rests with the submitting author. During preparation of manuscripts, authors must read and carefully follow the guidelines presented here. Questions should be directed to the Editor at econgeol@segweb.org.

Manuscript submission

Manuscripts should be submitted online through Editorial Manager (<http://www.editorialmanager.com/seg/>). Submission files (text, figures, tables, etc.) are uploaded individually by the author into Editorial Manager and the system builds a PDF that is used in the peer review process so that Editors and Reviewers do not have to download individual files that may be very large, or may not be compatible with software installed on their computers. Editorial Manager can accept a wide range of submission file formats including the following: Word, WordPerfect, RTF, TXT, LaTeX2e, AMSTeX, TIF, GIF, JPEG, EPS, Postscript, PICT, PDF, Excel, and PowerPoint.

For manuscripts with multiple authors, it is the responsibility of the lead author to ensure that all co-authors (1) are aware of and agree to their co-authorship, (2) have contributed in a substantial way to the writing of the manuscript, and (3) have read the final version of the manuscript being submitted. Upon submission of the manuscript, the Editorial Manager system will contact each co-author for verification of the above points.

There are many new and evolving tools that are used in scientific studies, as well as in the preparation of manuscripts, including artificial intelligence (AI) and large language models (LLMs); use of any tool in a study is essential to acknowledge. For manuscripts submitted to *Economic Geology*, the use of any interpretive, writing, or translation programs must be acknowledged in the submission cover letter and elaborated upon, as appropriate, in one or more of the introduction, methods, or acknowledgments sections. In addition, AI or LLM tools cannot be listed as an author, since authorship requires accountability for the work and such tools cannot take on responsibility.

After the paper is accepted for publication, authors will be asked to send the final revised versions of all text, tables, and figures to the production editor, Myra Holmes (myraholmes@segweb.org). Text should be sent in Word format, tables in

Word or Excel, and vector format PDF or EPS files of figures are preferred. Authors will be required to sign a copyright transfer form or choose and pay for Open Access (CC-BY) licensing. Extended data tables and supplemental graphics can be accommodated as online digital appendix files.

Author biography and photo

Authors of accepted papers are asked to provide a small photo and biography statement about the lead author. If the paper is co-authored by no more than two authors, both authors may submit a biography and photo. The photo should be a head-and-shoulders shot, color, with a resolution of at least 300 dpi. The biography is limited to 100 words and should describe the author's current position, education, and relevant experience.

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Open Access

Authors may choose to make their paper fully Open Access (sometimes called "Gold Open Access") upon payment of a fee. This fee is US\$2,500 for SEG members and US\$3,000 for non-members.

You may select Open Access when you submit your paper online. You do not need to pay until after your paper is accepted. We will bill you when we begin production, with payment expected before publication.

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After an embargo period of 12 months from the time of publication, authors may upload a peer-reviewed version of the manuscript. This will be a version that has not been through copyediting, layout, final proofing, and publishing with the SEG logo.

Authors must not post a typeset proof or final version to any website or repository unless the paper is fully Open Access, nor may they post any version of the paper online during the review or production process. More information on the Society's policy can be found at www.segweb.org/openaccess.

Types of Manuscripts Published

The journal publishes six types of manuscripts: (1) Regular papers presenting new work (typically a maximum of 20 journal pages/20,000 words), (2) Scientific communications (six journal pages/6,000 words, inclusive of figures and tables), (3) Express letters (no more than four journal pages/4,000 words, inclusive of figures and tables), (4) Discussions of previously published articles (no more than two journal pages), (5) Invited overview papers based on original compilation and synthesis from published and unpublished work (no more than 20 journal pages), and (6) Characterization papers (no more than 20 pages/20,000 words). Suggested published lengths include abstract, text, figures, tables, references, and appendices. In calculating the length of a submission, the following guidelines apply: a journal page contains 1,000 words or 48 references. Page estimates for figures and tables can be made by comparison with recent

issues of the journal. As a general rule of thumb, a shorter manuscript is almost always better than longer and will lead to more timely reviews. Authors should strive for conciseness, the minimum length necessary to clearly communicate the study.

Regular papers

Regular papers, focused on new data, may discuss any aspect of economic geology, including all classes of mineral deposits as well as the tectonics, geochemistry, or geophysics of mineralized regions, studies of experimental or natural systems of minerals involved in ore deposits, modeling of processes, sampling statistics, exploration techniques, potential new sources of metals, and environmental geochemistry of mine sites. The geology should be illustrated across multiple scales (district to hand-specimen) with maps, cross-sections and high-quality photographs of key features and timing relationships. For mineral deposits that are or have been mined, please specify when mining began, how much metal has been produced to date, how much metal was mined last year, and the current reserves and resources. For manuscripts dealing with unmined prospects, please state the size of the resource as defined by exploration to date. We especially encourage authors to submit field-based studies that include new geologic maps and cross sections of mineral deposits and/or of mineralized districts. Regular papers are examined by at least two reviewers who are specialists in the topic and at least one member of the Editorial Board.

Scientific communications, express letters, and discussions

Scientific communications are intended to serve as topical progress reports prior to the publication of a major paper, to disseminate new ideas on topics of current interest, or to describe a new technique and its applications. In any of these cases, scientific communications must stand alone and contain sufficient data to support conclusions. They are evaluated by at least one referee and one member of the Editorial Board, which can permit more rapid publication. Manuscripts submitted as scientific communications that exceed the 6,000 word limit (inclusive of figures, tables, and references) will be reviewed as regular manuscripts.

Express letters showcase new or developing ideas, methods, or discoveries, the timely publication of which clearly benefits the readers of the journal. They are short (2 to 4 printed pages, including figures, tables, and references) and receive expedited review. They may contain elements of longer papers that might appear later in the regular pages of the journal, but they should not be extended abstracts of full-length journal papers. Express letters are NOT an easier path to publication of what should be a longer paper. They must pass a significant hurdle of needing rapid publication on a pressing or novel topic. Upon acceptance they are published as the lead article of the next available issue.

Discussions of previously published articles may receive a formal review if advisable, and the author of a paper under discussion is always given the opportunity to reply. Usually, the Discussion and Reply are then published together.

Overview papers

Overview papers generally are invited by the Editor or by members of the Editorial Board. Authors interested in writing

a paper of an overview or summary nature should consult with the Editor (econgcol@segweb.org) prior to submittal. Overview papers should present new insights about specific ore deposit types, ore-forming environments, or ore-forming processes through original compilations of published and unpublished work. They should be written to educate the reader rather than simply compile information. Creative reviews should critically assess the data in the light of competing hypotheses, and genetic models should be discussed in the context of older ideas as well as their relevance to exploration concepts. Overview papers are examined by at least two reviewers and at least one member of the Editorial Board. Upon acceptance they are published as the lead article of the next available issue. Time to publication can be very quick for a well-written paper.

Characterization papers

Characterization papers will seek to characterize the geology of the world's major metallic mineral deposits. Ideally, these papers will be industry led and will either summarize the current state of understanding of the geology of a well-known ore deposit across multiple scales or will document the geology of a major new discovery and should include new data in addition to an overview of the deposit's geology, mining, and exploration history. Proposals for characterization papers can be submitted to the journal editor for consideration and discussion. A manuscript template is available on request.

Map Series

Large-format maps are produced digitally and do not appear in the printed journal. Those interested in submitting should contact the Editor for instructions.

Manuscript Text, References, Tables, and Figures: Format and Style

Title page includes the following:

- Title of paper
- Authors' names
- Authors' affiliations and addresses
- An e-mail address for the corresponding author
- If an affiliation or address of an author has changed since work on the paper was completed, provide information for present address, which will be listed in a footnote.

Abstract

- An abstract of about 150 to 250 words is required.
- No references, figures, or tables should be included in the abstract.
- An Abstract is NOT an introduction. It should summarize the main results and conclusions of the study. It should not be an explanation of why the study was done or how it compares to other published studies – that information belongs in the Introduction.

Text

- Microsoft Word is the recommended software for the body of the paper.
- A regular font such as Times New Roman is preferred.
- Spelling used by the journal conforms to U.S. conventions (e.g., sulfide, not sulphide; color, not colour).

- Initialisms should be avoided, except those that are universally accepted, such as ICP-MS, REE, MVT. Regardless, spell out when first used and identify in figure and table captions.
- Three ranks of heading can be accommodated. Major headings are centered, bold, with significant words capitalized. Secondary headings are placed flush left and set in italics; third-level headings are flush left, italicized, and run into the text.
- Boldface type and italics should be used only for appropriate mathematical symbols, not for emphasis.
- Footnotes are rarely necessary; the material usually can be incorporated in the text.
- For spelling, style, grammar, and punctuation, *Economic Geology* primarily uses the *AGI Glossary of Geology*, *Chicago Manual of Style*, and *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*.

Figure captions

- Captions follow the References section of the paper.
- Number captions (and figures) sequentially with Arabic numerals and begin with the abbreviation "Fig." (e.g., Fig. 1).
- Parts of the figure should be labeled consistently throughout the paper with uppercase letters (e.g., A, B, C).
- Captions should be brief—stating first the type of figure involved, then the salient points of the figure—and conclude with references if the figure is derived from other work.

Tables

- Tables included with the main text should consist of brief summary data. Long tables that include extensive data should be included with the online appendix files and may be moved to appendices at the discretion of the Editor, reviewers, and/or production staff.
- Tables may follow the figure captions or be individual files.
- Use Word or Excel—a format that we can edit for style.
- Tables are called out sequentially, with Arabic numerals and brief titles.
- Notes are labeled with superscript Arabic numerals; sequence of notes is across rows and then down. Explanatory notes and footnotes follow the table.
- Text in individual cells of the table should have only the initial letter of the first word in upper case, in addition to proper nouns (e.g., Mississippi Valley-type).
- Tables do not take sentence-ending periods.

Appendices

- Please provide full geographical coordinates for all analyzed samples (latitude-longitude or UTM, plus elevations). Drill hole numbers and depths can also be provided but by themselves are insufficient.
- Supplemental material must be central to the paper and likely to be used by other scientists. Avoid overuse and combine when possible.
- Appendices must be cited sequentially in the text and named in the format "Appendix Table A1, A2, Figure A1, A2," and in parentheses as "(App. Table A1, Fig. A1)." Simple Appendix text otherwise should retain the designation as Appendix 1 (App. 1).
- This material will only be available online and should be in a commonly used format (e.g., .docx, .pdf, .xlsx). Other

formats can be accommodated, however, and the author should query the editor before sending.

- A footnote indicating the location of online Appendices will be inserted on the first page of the final paper.

Abbreviations, units, and terminology

- Use internationally accepted units. As far as possible, use only SI (metric) units of measurement, and be consistent in use (e.g., do not mix mg/kg and ppm); decimals are preferable to fractions.
- Geologic terminology and spelling should conform to the *Glossary of Geology*, published by the American Geological Institute.
- Abbreviations are generally spelled out in text and abbreviated in parentheses. Example: the word "Figure" is spelled out in the text but abbreviated to "Fig." in parentheses (e.g., Fig. 1) and at the beginning of captions (e.g., Fig. 2. Tectonic map of Southeast Asia). Symbols such as % are used both in text and in parentheses. Excessive acronyms should be avoided.

Literature citations in the text and references

When citing literature in the text, use the following forms:

- One author (Smith, 1980), two authors (Smith and Jones, 1980), three or more authors (Smith et al., 1980).
- If two or more authors are cited parenthetically, they are listed chronologically from oldest to most recent: (Smith, 1907; Jones, 1930; Brown, 1997).
- If the citation is not a parenthetical one (as above), refer to Smith (1980), to Smith and Jones (1980), and to Smith et al. (1980).
- Avoid excessive referencing. When more than one citation is necessary, a useful guide is "first, best, and most recent."

The order of references at the end of the paper

- Entries are cited alphabetically and names of journals, symposium volumes, etc., are spelled out in full (e.g., *American Journal of Science*).
- Papers by a single author are listed chronologically from oldest to most recent.
- Papers by a single author are first, then papers by that author and a second, alphabetically according to the second author (e.g., Adams, A.B., and Brown, C.D., 1980, before Adams, A.B., and Smith, E.G., 1975). Papers by three or more authors are listed chronologically (e.g., Adams, A.B., Smith, E.F., and Jones, G.H., 1975, before Adams, A.B., Brown, C.D., and Jones, G.H., 1980).
- Unpublished work not available to the public or not accepted yet for publication should be cited in the text as, for example, (A.B. Brown, pers. commun., 1997), (A.B. Brown, unpub. report, 2023), or (A.B. Brown, in press); such citations do not appear in the reference section.

References section—examples:

- Book: Collins, A.G., 1975, *Geochemistry of oilfield waters*: Amsterdam, Elsevier, 496 p.
- Conference paper: McDonald, I., 2005, Development of sulfide standards for the in-situ analysis of platinum-group elements by laser ablation inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) [ext. abs.]: *International*

- Platinum Symposium, 10th, Oulu, Finland, 2005, Extended Abstracts, p. 468–471.
- Journal paper: Fehn, U., and Cathles, L.M., 1979, Hydrothermal convection at slow-spreading mid-ocean ridges: *Tectonophysics*, v. 55, p. 239–260.
 - “Et al.” entry follows two-author entry (above): Fehn, U., Green, K.E., Von Herzen, R.P., and Cathles, L.M., 1983, Numerical models for the hydrothermal field at the Galapagos spreading center: *Journal of Geophysical Research*, v. 88, p. 1033–1048.
 - Paper in a book: Ohmoto, H., and Goldhaber, M.B., 1997, Sulfur and carbon isotopes, in Barnes, H.L., ed., *Geochemistry of hydrothermal ore deposits*, 3rd ed.: New York, Wiley, p. 517–611.
 - Academic thesis: Richer, M., 2006, Volcanic framework, geochronology and geochemical evolution of the El Dorado gold district, El Salvador, Central America: M.Sc. thesis, Vancouver, Canada, The University of British Columbia, 147 p.
 - URL data: US Geological Survey, National Mapping Division, 1996, National mapping program instructions, Part 2: Specifications, standards for digital orthophotos, <http://rockyweb.cr.usgs.gov/nmpstds/acrodocs/doq/2doq1296.pdf>.
 - Paper with doi: Mireku, L.K., and Stanley, C.R., 2006, Litho-geochemistry and hydrothermal alteration at the Halfmile Lake South Deep Zone, a volcanic-hosted massive sulfide deposit, Bathurst mining camp, New Brunswick: *Exploration and Mining Geology*, v. 15, p. 177–199, <https://doi.org/10.2113/gsemg.15.3-4.177>.

Artwork, photographs

- *General*: The size of figures should approximately match final publication size—one- or two-column width—so that referees can judge their quality.
- *Figures*: Figures must be in the highest resolution (300–600 dpi) available; editable high-resolution PDF or EPS files are preferred. Please do not send figures in Microsoft Word. When saving figures, please be sure to embed all linked images.
- *Line drawings (black and white with no gray shades)*: Line widths should be a minimum of 0.3 mm at the final print size. If scanned, resolution should be 1200 dpi.
- *Scaling and text*: Images will be scaled to fit a one- or two-column width (3-1/2", 7-1/4") on the page; minimum text size at that scale should be 6-8 pt.; maximum should be 12 pt.
- *Half-tone, grayscale (photos and drawings with shades of gray)*: Shades of gray in drawings should be no less than 20% apart to be distinguished easily in print. Photos should be scanned at no less than 300 dpi. Scanned photos with lettering should be scanned at no less than 600 dpi. This is to compensate for text (including arrows) that is bitmapped when scanned. An alternate solution is to place art in a vector program (Illustrator, for example) and then add text and arrows.
- *Color art*: Color approved by the Editor is free for SEG members, otherwise it is \$500/page. Colors for drawings should be chosen with care to be distinct from each other. Print color should be created as CMYK, not RGB.
- *Geologic*: Details should include north arrow, latitude-longitude, axis labels, scale bar, as appropriate to the graphic.
- At least one location map must include latitude-longitude markings.

Accessibility

- Figures and tables must be presented in a way that aids individuals with visual disabilities or impairments.
- When using color to convey meaning, use a second indicator or style, such as labels, patterns, solid and dashed lines, and shapes.
- Avoid colors that differ only in hue, especially percentage red or green.
- Make sure lines are thick (minimum 0.3 mm) and use high contrast for text, arrows, or other shapes.
- Alternative text is required for all figures, graphs, and illustrations. Alt text serves as a brief (125–250 characters) text equivalent of an image or graphic to aid those who use assistive technologies to access data. SEG production staff will generate alt text for author approval.