

Quality Assurance Process 2025

Open Publishing Model

Redalyc's goal is to strengthen the non-profit publishing model to preserve the open and scholarly nature of scientific communication. The Journals that find their space for action and growth in this publication model share the following:

1. They adhered themselves to a non-APC Open Access communication model.
2. Academic and peer review of the contents published by the journal.
3. Commitment to shift to digital publishing, including the tagging of scientific content in **Marcalyc. Editorial flow system and XML-JATS Markup**, supplied with material for that purpose and ongoing training. Additionally, there is an option to submit content directly in XML-JATS.
4. The vision of overcoming the current assessment of science based on metrics such as the Impact Factor, and promoting the inclusion of local science and linguistic diversity for the common good.

Redalyc and AmeliCA take concerted action to offer a knowledge and technology infrastructure that ensures the sustainability of Diamond Open Access on a global and non-profit scale for scientific journals. AmeliCA is a cooperative communication platform designed for consolidating journals. Redalyc, on the other hand, is an indexing system that integrates consolidated journals of certified scientific and editorial quality. As part of the Redalyc and AmeliCA's alliance, journals indexed by Redalyc automatically participate in AmeliCA projects.

Benefits of Being an Indexed Journal in Redalyc

- The visibility and impact of your journals is maximized.
- Your content is made visible by distributing metadata to multiple platforms such as DOAJ, JournalTOCS, and also to libraries, content aggregators, specialized and general-purpose search engines.
- You transit to digital publishing using the XML format compliant with the international JATS standard, which is a format for scientific articles that ensures preservation, optimizes the recognition of meta tags at the article level, improves visibility online and the reading experience in different devices. You also get enriched reading formats of scientific articles (PDF, EPUB, HTML, intelligent and mobile viewers).
- You can use Marcalyc. Editorial flow system and XML-JATS Markup tool.
- Article downloads are increased.
- You get bibliometric indicators of production, collaboration, and use.

- You get an RSS feed to disseminate your contents.
- You take advantage of the interoperability offered by OAI-PMH.

Quality Assurance Process

1. Self-assessment in **QUALITAAD. Quality Self-assessment for Diamond Open Access Journals.**
2. Basic Criteria Compliance.
3. Full Quantitative Evaluation.
4. Full Qualitative Evaluation.
5. International Evaluation Committee: Qualitative Feedback.
6. Final Assessment and Feedback Report.
7. Agreement Formalization.
8. Continuous Quality Assurance.

To successfully complete the application process, the editor must ensure that the journal's website links work properly. It is common to find journals whose pages show broken links or whose servers do not respond when requesting information. If any problems are detected during any part of the Quality Assurance Process, the journal's assessment will be delayed, and the responsible editor will be notified of the situation.

The process of applying journals to Redalyc.org is governed by a rigorous evaluation system that guarantees the editorial and scientific quality of the publications included in the network. The stages of the process are detailed below:

1. Self-assessment in QUALITAAD. Quality Self-assessment for Diamond Open Access Journals

Editors must complete the required information in the tool: **QUALITAAD. Quality Self-assessment for Diamond Open Access Journals**, providing details about the journal and its contact person. Editors are advised to verify compliance with the "**Evaluation Criteria**" before starting the application to avoid setbacks and optimize the process's efficiency.

Once the self-evaluation is completed, one of two outcomes will be obtained:

- A. **Favorable outcome:** The journal becomes a candidate. It will have the option to submit its journal for quality assurance review. A submission letter will be automatically sent once the journal has been validated in the pre-assessment phase, which must be digitally or holographically signed by the journal's director or editor-in-chief and sent to evaluacion@redalyc.org to formally begin the review process.
- B. **Unfavorable outcome:** If the journal does not meet the required percentage when filling out the tool, it can try again once it meets the indicated criteria.

2. Basic Criteria Compliance

The process will continue only for those journals that meet the required percentage in the self-assessment and submit the signed submission letter. Once the submission letter is received, the Redalyc team will verify that the journal satisfactorily meets all the Basic Editorial Criteria.

3. Full Quantitative Evaluation

After validating compliance with the **Basic Criteria**, a review report is prepared, examining compliance with the **Basic Admission Criteria (BCA)** and achieving a positive balance regarding the **Qualitative Criteria (QC)** and **Highly Valued Criteria (HVC)**. This report highlights the aspects that strengthen the journal and points out possible areas of opportunity.

4. Full Qualitative Evaluation

Subsequently, the report is sent to the Redalyc Internal Committee for qualitative evaluation that analyzes the quality assurance report and formulates additional recommendations, considering the specific nature of the journal's field of knowledge, its dynamics, context, and challenges. Once the review report is enriched, it is sent to the International Evaluation Committee for assessment.

5. International Evaluation Committee: Qualitative Feedback

The Redalyc International Evaluation Committee examines the enriched evaluation report and, if deemed appropriate, may request additional information or propose reconsiderations.

6. Final Assessment and Feedback Report Submission

The observations made at this stage are integrated into the review report to ensure a thorough and rigorous analysis of the journal application. This Feedback report can have two results:

A. Accepted Journal

In case of acceptance, a notification is sent to the journal, requesting a **Goodwill Agreement** signed by the journal's director or editor-in-chief, either digitally or holographically, as well as the journal's and institution's logos, to begin the indexing process in the **Scientific Information System Redalyc** and make the journal available on Redalyc.org.

B. Journal with Recommendations and Journal Not Accepted

If the journal receives an evaluation with a result of Recommendations or Non-acceptance, the editor will be notified through the Feedback Report. This document outlines the publication's strengths and identified areas of opportunity. The journal may request a new evaluation in the future once the editorial team reports on the implementation of the recommended improvements in the report.

7. Agreement Formalization

The indexing certificate will be issued once the journal submits the requested documentation as outlined in the acceptance notification. Additionally, a key and a home page will be created for the journal in the Scientific Information System. On this page, the journal will have access to essential information, bibliometric indicators, an RSS channel, and all its publications (when converted to XML JATS format and validated by our team). The acceptance notification will also include instructions on how to proceed with the content indexing process to finalize its integration into the platform, either by utilizing **Marcalyc. Editorial flow system and XML-JATS Markup tool**, or by directly sending the content to Redalyc.

8. Continuous Quality Assurance

It is imperative that Redalyc maintains the quality assurance of Diamond Open Access scientific journals, which is why it constantly updates its quality standards. Therefore, indexed journals are continuously evaluated. Those that do not comply with the updated criteria may be removed from the Index.

Transparency (applicable for results of new and reevaluated journals)

From the moment the quality assurance process begins, which includes committee reviews and the submission of the Feedback Report, the editor must wait between four and six months. Each editor will receive an email with recommendations arising from this process. This aims to provide transparency to the quality assurance process of **Redalyc.org** journals while consolidating the scientific editorial efforts of Diamond Open Access journals.