

Journal Overview

The *Japanese Journal of Developmental Psychology* (JJDP) is the official peer-reviewed journal of the Japan Society of Developmental Psychology (JSDP) and is published quarterly. Its mission is to promote the advancement of developmental science by disseminating high-quality research on developmental processes from early childhood through old age.

In addition to the print edition, all articles are available online via J-STAGE.

Aims & Scope

The JJDP publishes theoretical and empirical work that contributes to the understanding and support of human development. The scope includes, but is not limited to, research on the following:

- Cognitive, emotional, personality, social, interpersonal, self and identity, language, learning, and motivational development
- Environmental influences on development, such as family, childcare and education, peer relations, culture, and social institutions
- Applied and practice-oriented research on developmental support, interventions, assessment, clinical and counseling practices, welfare, health care, and community-based services
- Methodological and measurement studies, including assessment tools, observational methods, and analytic techniques relevant to developmental research
- Developmental and behavioral processes in non-human animals, including comparative studies with humans

The journal welcomes contributions ranging from basic research to applied and practice-oriented studies, as long as they advance the understanding and support of development.

Language Policy

The JJDP is primarily a Japanese-language journal. Articles are written in Japanese, but all papers include English titles and abstracts to enhance visibility and accessibility for international readers. From 2025 onward, special issues may include articles written in English.

Article Types

The JJDP defines the following categories for original, unpublished manuscripts:

- **Original Articles**
Research papers on issues and topics related to development. This category includes a wide range of works, such as empirical studies based on numerical data, theoretical discussions, and case-based analyses.
- **Practice Articles**

Research papers that involve professional practice on issues and topics related to development. They may cover diverse practice domains, such as childcare and education, clinical and counseling psychology, developmental support and rehabilitation, parenting support, services for older adults, and consultation. Practice Articles must include analyses based on quantitative or qualitative data derived from practice and place particular emphasis on practical significance.

- **Brief Reports**

Concise reports of studies on issues and topics related to development. This category includes exploratory or early stage studies that may stimulate new discussions, extensions, or replications of previous research and work on the development of new research methods or tasks.

- **Review/Outlook Articles**

Papers that provide an overview of domestic and international research on a given developmental issue or topic and synthesize and critically discuss this body of work to outline future directions for the field.

- **Opinion Articles**

Very short papers, including commentaries on articles that have appeared in the journal and opinions on the activities of the society.

Detailed definitions and formatting requirements for each article type are provided in the journal's Instructions for Authors and the Submission Guidelines.

Impact-Centered Editorial Policy

The JJDP follows the editorial policy established by the JSDP's Editorial Board. Since 2008, the journal has adopted an "impact-centered" approach to submission evaluation, which was further clarified and refined in 2022.

Under this impact-centered policy, reviewers and editors place primary emphasis on the potential impact of the work on developmental research and practice, considering multiple dimensions, such as:

- **Originality:** The originality and interest of the study perspective, uniqueness of its research methods, novelty of its findings, potential for further development, and capacity to stimulate new academic debate.
- **Quality:** The sophistication of the research design, use of appropriate and well-validated measures or tasks, quality and quantity of the data collected, and reproducibility of the findings.
- **Social significance:** The social importance of the research question, implications for practice in areas such as clinical work, education, and parenting support, contributions to policy debates, and broader societal impact.

The aim is to provide a venue for a broad range of contributions—from basic to applied research, from exploratory to confirmatory work—that meaningfully advance understanding and support development.

Editorial Evaluation and Publication Ethics

The JJDP operates a double-blind peer review system: the identities of the authors are not disclosed to the reviewers, and the identities of the reviewers outside the editorial board are not disclosed to the authors. Submissions are evaluated by the editorial board and expert reviewers in accordance with the journal's impact-centered editorial policy, and decisions regarding acceptance and revision are made accordingly.

For studies involving human participants, authors must comply with established ethical standards, including approval by an institutional review board or ethics committee when appropriate and the use of informed consent procedures. Suspected research misconduct—such as plagiarism, fabrication, falsification, or inappropriate data manipulation—will be investigated and handled in accordance with the policies of the society and editorial board.

Authorship, Prohibition of Duplicate Submission, and Publication Fees

- As a general rule, the first author of a submitted manuscript must be a member of the JSDP (except where special provisions are made, e.g., for particular special issues).
- Manuscripts submitted to the JJDP must be original and must not have been published previously in any form that constitutes prior publication. Simultaneous submission of the same manuscript to the JJDP and other journals is not permitted.
- Duplicate and redundant publications, including inappropriate “salami” publications based on the same dataset, are not acceptable.
- The journal does not charge authors for submission fees, peer-review fees, or article processing/publication charges.