Editorship of the *American Political Science Review*  
**Frequently Asked Questions**  
*Updated September 27, 2018*

**How many submissions does APSR receive?**  
The journal currently receives approximately 1,500 submissions per year from across all areas of political science.

**What is the breakdown of APSR submissions by subfield in the last year?**  
Comparative - 28.6%  
American - 18%  
IR - 14.6%  
Normative - 16.3%  
Other - 8.9%  
Formal - 5.7%  
Race/Ethnicity - 3.6%  
Methods - 4.2%

**What submission and peer review system does APSR use?**  
The journal currently uses Editorial Manager by Aries Systems.

**How often does APSR publish?**  
Articles are published FirstView by Cambridge University Press as they are accepted. Print issues are published 4x/year and the annual page budget is up to 1,400 pages.

**What is the role of the editor?**  
The new editor or editors will be charged with leadership of APSR in the profession and maintaining its centrality to the profession and upholding its standards of excellence. We seek scholars with a commitment to publishing articles that represent the substantive and methodological diversity of the discipline.

**What should the proposal include?**  
1. Vision for the future of the journal under your editorship including planned innovations, expansion and strategies for challenges  
2. Editorial organizational/management plan including personnel, division of labor, especially if a team approach is proposed  
3. Proposed editorial process and how you would conduct peer review  
4. How you will address diversity in both articles published and the editorial team  
5. CVs of any applicant on the editorial team and outline of previous journal experience  
6. Budget/financial plan for the entire term including your estimated costs
7. Statement of philosophy regarding Data Access and Research Transparency (DA-RT) principles as applied to the journal

What support does APSA provide?
1. Substantial financial support for editorial operations that is commensurate on the size and needs of the editorial team. Please contact Steve Smith, APSA Executive Director at smithsr@apsanet.org with any questions.
2. Electronic manuscript submission and peer review system
3. Copyediting and electronic production services
4. Hosting an editorial board meeting every year at the APSA Annual Meeting
5. Reporting on bibliometrics (citations, downloads, Altmetric, etc.) to inform decision-making

The RFP says you are open to new editorial models. What are some possibilities?
1. An editor-in-chief with a large group of associate editors from different subfields based at many different institutions around the globe
2. Current model of 7-8 co-editors based at a small number of institutions with significant institutional support
3. Lead editor becomes an APSA employee where leave or half/time is covered by the association
4. A dedicated Managing Editor based at APSA headquarters
5. Any other new ideas/models proposed by the applicant

How will financial support be used?
It could be used to cover such costs as course buyouts, graduate student support, travel expenses and editor/associate editor honorariums. The association is especially open to proposals that include innovative individual and institutional collaborations and welcomes preliminary discussions with candidates about how such proposals might be structured and funded. While the search is not need-blind, we are open to candidates from a wide range of institutional types.

How long is the term?
The contract is for a four-year term beginning on June 1, 2020 with the possibility of a two-year extension.

How does the transition work?
We will work with the current team to ensure a smooth transition and provide any training on Editorial Manager to the chosen applicants. On June 1, 2020 all new submissions and those currently under review will become the responsibility of the new editor(s).

What do you mean by “innovation”?
APSA is currently considering other innovations in the publishing space such as preprint repositories, active citation/annotation, data repositories and Open Access. We would like APSR to play a role in these kinds of innovations as well as on social media. Within the existing page budget, there is an opportunity to grow the quantity of high quality articles published in the journal, along with the future possibilities to increase in frequency and page budget as needed.

What is the timeline for proposals?
Please send your proposal to Jon Gurstelle, APSA Publishing Director at jgurstelle@apsanet.org by no later than the October 31, 2018 deadline. The Search Committee will choose a successor to be
presented for APSA Council approval in March 2019, and the selected applicant(s) will be contacted shortly thereafter.

**Do I need to submit a letter of intent and will you provide feedback?**
The APSR Search Committee welcomes letters of intent (LOI) prior to the October 31, 2018 proposal submission date should you wish to receive feedback on your application. Please deliver your letter to Jon Gurstelle, Publishing Director [jgurstelle@apsanet.org](mailto:jgurstelle@apsanet.org) and Melani Cammett, Search Committee Chair [mcammett@g.harvard.edu](mailto:mcammett@g.harvard.edu) by no later than **October 5, 2018**.

**Is it possible to see a template from a previous proposal?**
Please contact Jon Gurstelle at [jgurstelle@apsanet.org](mailto:jgurstelle@apsanet.org).

**Is there a previous APSR editors’ report available?**
The 2016-2017 editors’ report was published in *PS* and is available here: [https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/ps-political-science-and-politics/article/american-political-science-review-editors-report-201617/93F0D1099F11007C6E181B4EE0A0303/share/aae9154c6b10c425a58d7d45383c09bf0b6426a3](https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/ps-political-science-and-politics/article/american-political-science-review-editors-report-201617/93F0D1099F11007C6E181B4EE0A0303/share/aae9154c6b10c425a58d7d45383c09bf0b6426a3)

**Will you accept nominations?**
If you know someone who would be right for the editorship of *APSR*, please nominate them by sending in their name(s), email and brief description of their qualifications to Melani Cammett, Search Committee Chair at [m.cammett@g.harvard.edu](mailto:m.cammett@g.harvard.edu) or Jon Gurstelle at [jgurstelle@apsanet.org](mailto:jgurstelle@apsanet.org).

**What if I have questions?**
If you are considering applying and want to learn more, please contact [m.cammett@g.harvard.edu](mailto:m.cammett@g.harvard.edu) or [jgurstelle@apsanet.org](mailto:jgurstelle@apsanet.org) with your questions.