

Assessment for Effective Intervention (AEI) is published in association with the Council for Educational Diagnostic Services (CEDS). The journal's primary purpose is to publish scientifically sound and methodologically rigorous manuscripts on assessment development, validation, and use following the guidance provided by test standards at the national (*The Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing*, 2014) or international (*International Test Commission Guidelines on Test Use*, 2013) level. AEI is distinguished from other journals by its unique focus on publishing research that is specifically intended to inform interventions for youth participating in PreK–12 schools or other educational settings. AEI serves a unique niche as an interdisciplinary journal for applied educational assessment within the fields of special and general education as well as school and educational psychology. Articles published in AEI are relevant to educational diagnosticians, special educators, school psychologists, behavior support specialists, school-based mental health practitioners, educational researchers, and trainers. AEI is fundamentally committed to equity and inclusion. It is published quarterly.

Types of Manuscripts

AEI publishes manuscripts addressing assessment development, validation, and use that are explicitly connected to intervention or treatment—including (but not limited to) academic skills, social or emotional behavior, mental health, speech and language, cognitive skills, and adaptive behavior. Research in the above areas focused on systems-level interventions and issues related to equity, inclusion, and accessibility are welcome. Authors should clearly state how their research informs intervention. Relevant student populations include students with disabilities, children receiving early intervention services in educational settings, English language learners, or other PreK–12 students who are receiving or eligible for intervention or treatment. Assessments administered to educators or caregivers will be considered as long as they are intended to inform intervention (e.g., treatment integrity, social validity). AEI also welcomes manuscripts reporting on any type of assessment technique (e.g., direct observation, curriculum-based measures, self-monitoring, rating scales, performance-based tests, direct behavior ratings). The following types of manuscripts are considered for publication in AEI:

Original Research. Empirical research reporting on the development, validation, and/or use of evidence-based assessment techniques. Pilot, preliminary, regular, replication, extension, generalization, and null-effect studies are all welcome. Manuscripts that employ rigorous qualitative, quantitative, single-case, or mixed-methods approaches may be submitted. **Maximum manuscript length = 30 double-spaced pages.**

Brief Reports. Empirical studies meeting the same general criteria outlined for “Original Research” but presented in a more succinct report. Results must not be published elsewhere, but secondary analyses or re-analyses of data from previously published research are welcome. **Maximum length = 15 double-spaced pages.**

Literature Reviews. Systematic reviews or meta-analyses of the empirical literature regarding the validation or use of assessment techniques. Non-systematic narrative reviews may be considered if they make a substantial theoretical or methodological contribution to the scientific literature. **Maximum length = 30 double-spaced pages.**

Commentary. Critical discussion of scientific or practical issues relevant to the journal's purpose. Manuscripts may include (but are not limited to) critiques of previously published research in AEI, responses to other commentary, original theoretical contributions, and proposals for methodological innovation. **Maximum length = 10 double-spaced pages.**

PAGE COUNTS for all types include the abstract, references, tables, and figures, and each table should start on a new page.

Peer Review Process and Acceptance Criteria

AEI typically uses 2 to 3 peer reviewers per manuscript in a double-blind peer review process. The editor, an associate editor (AE), and the peer reviewers review manuscripts meeting submission criteria. Editorial decisions are made after considering the AE's recommendation and reviewer comments. Manuscripts must meet professional standards for scientific writing and make a meaningful contribution to the scientific literature. All editorial feedback

is provided to the lead author and manuscript reviewers. Authors are typically given an initial editorial decision within 8 to 9 weeks of submission. The editor's decision regarding acceptance or rejection is final unless the author believes an error occurred.

Manuscript Preparation

Manuscripts should be prepared according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA; 7th ed., 2020)*.

Ethical Standards. Authors are expected to follow the ethical and legal standards outlined in the APA Publication Manual related to reporting data and authorship, disclosing funding sources and conflicting interests, and ensuring the rights of research participants. Authors must certify that IRB approval or institutional exemption was obtained for any studies on which their work is directly based.

Manuscripts should adhere to the following formatting guidelines:

1. **Title Page.** Submit a **separate title page file** with (a) article title; (b) names of all authors; (c) author affiliations, complete mailing address for contact author, e-mail addresses of all authors; and (d) any acknowledgments, financial disclosure information, author notes, or other text that could identify authors to reviewers.
2. **Format.** 8½ × 11 in. document; 1-in. margins. Text: double-spacing, left alignment, & Times New Roman 12-pt. typeface. Include title & abstract in main text file. **Text and table files must be Word text documents; no PDFs.**
3. **Tables.** Each table must start on a new page. Tables should be double-spaced; please use Word's table functions.
4. **Figures.** Figures should be separate files—with each figure on a new page or file and be production-ready. Use bold type that is large enough to be reduced and still be readable, and make sure rules/tick marks are at least 1 point. Acceptable electronic formats include: TIFF, EPS, JPG. Figures supplied in color will be published in color online and black and white in print; therefore, you must supply images that are comprehensible in black and white as well.
5. **No Footnotes.** Use endnotes instead and use them sparingly. In-text citation: Use the word “Note.” Number with Arabic numerals starting with 1 and continuing through the article. Example: (see Note 1).
6. **Cover Letter:** Include a letter to the editor specifying how your research informs intervention in PreK–12 schools.

All figures and tables must be mentioned in the text (a “callout”) by their number.

Authors for Whom English is a Second Language. A colleague or copyeditor who is fluent in English should review the manuscript before submission.

PERMISSIONS. The author is responsible for (a) obtaining written permission for material (e.g., figures, tables, extensive quotes) taken directly or adapted from another source, and (b) payment of any fees the copyright holder may require. The permission process can be lengthy, so start the request process early. **Material taken from software or from the Internet also requires obtaining permission.** Read permissions carefully to ensure the language is broad enough to allow publication in all formats, including electronic and print. Failure to obtain permission will result in removal of the item or the article.

Supplemental Material. Decisions regarding inclusion of supplemental material will be made by the editor as part of the acceptance process. With the exception of videos and podcasts, supplemental files will be deposited to **Figshare** and assigned a DOI. Authors are responsible for the scientific accuracy and file functionality of all supplemental files; materials will not be copyedited, typeset, or proofread. For more information: <https://tinyurl.com/ju8p6wzk>

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION on preparation of **figures and photos**, as well as **a form for requesting permissions**, go to <https://tinyurl.com/bp2759by> and select the Instructions & Forms link.

Manuscript Submission

Submit at the peer review site: <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/aei>

A guide can be accessed via the Help section on the main page.

Editor

Leanne Ketterlin Geller, PhD

lkgeller@smu.edu

Southern Methodist University