

# Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

Mireia Guardingo, PhD

# Outline

- ✓ **Structure of the Web of Science Core Collection**
- ✓ **Web of Science journal evaluation process and selection criteria**
- ✓ **How to submit your journal for evaluation**

# Web of Science

- Web of Science™ is the world's most trusted publisher-independent global citation database.
- We capture, index and link every piece of metadata for all items in the Web of Science Core Collection.
- We use a uniquely selective and robust evaluation and curation process by a team of expert in-house editors.
- Our principles: **objectivity**, **selectivity** and **collection dynamics**

# The Web of Science Platform

**34,000+**

Journals across the platform

**87 million**

Patents for over 43 million inventions

**21,000+**

Total journals in the *Core Collection*

**8.9 million+**

Data Sets and Data Studies

**1.9 billion+**

Cited references

**Backfiles to 1900**

With cover-to-cover indexing

**171 million+**

Records

**218,000+**

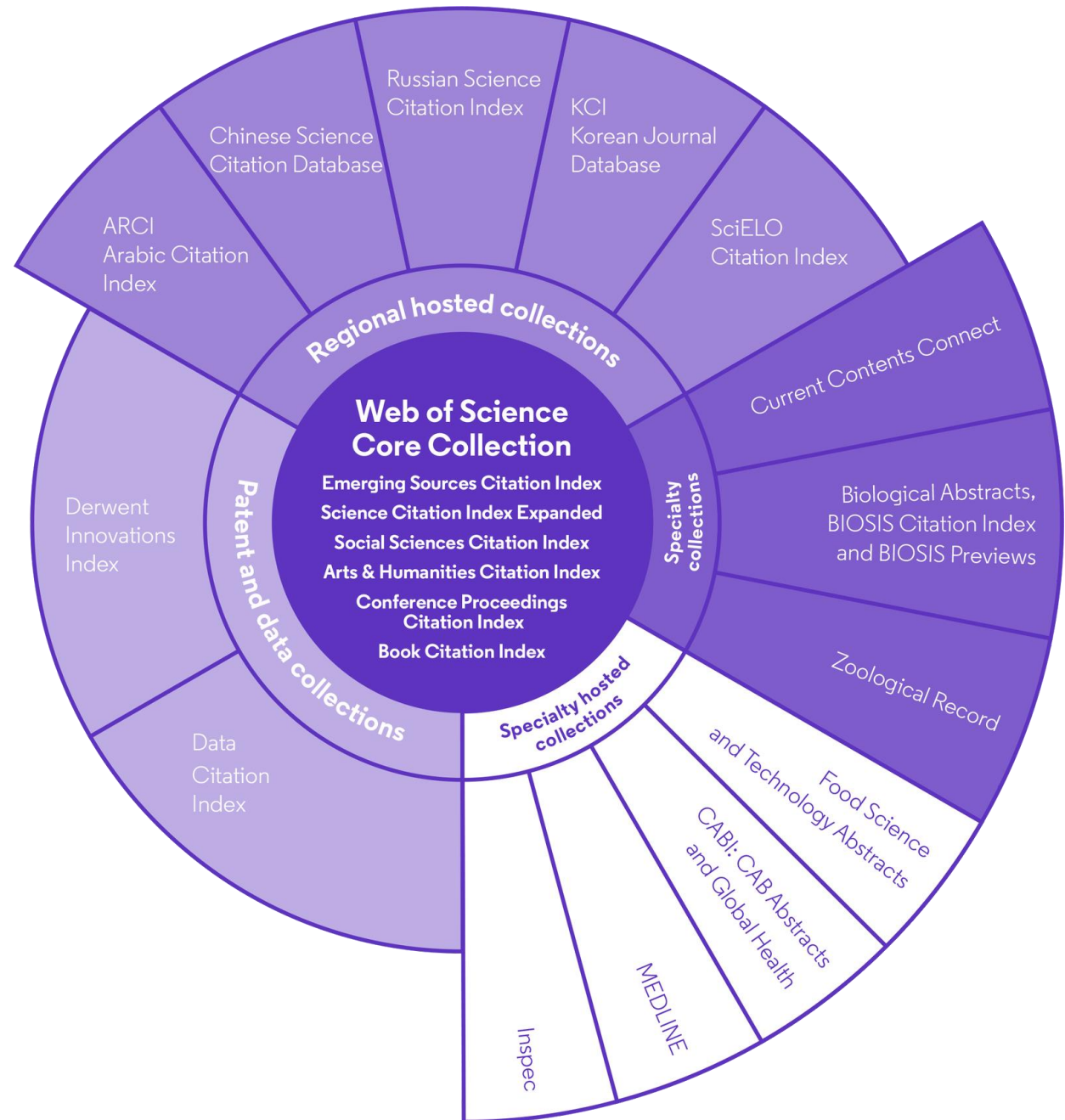
Conference proceedings

**12.6 million**

Records with funding data

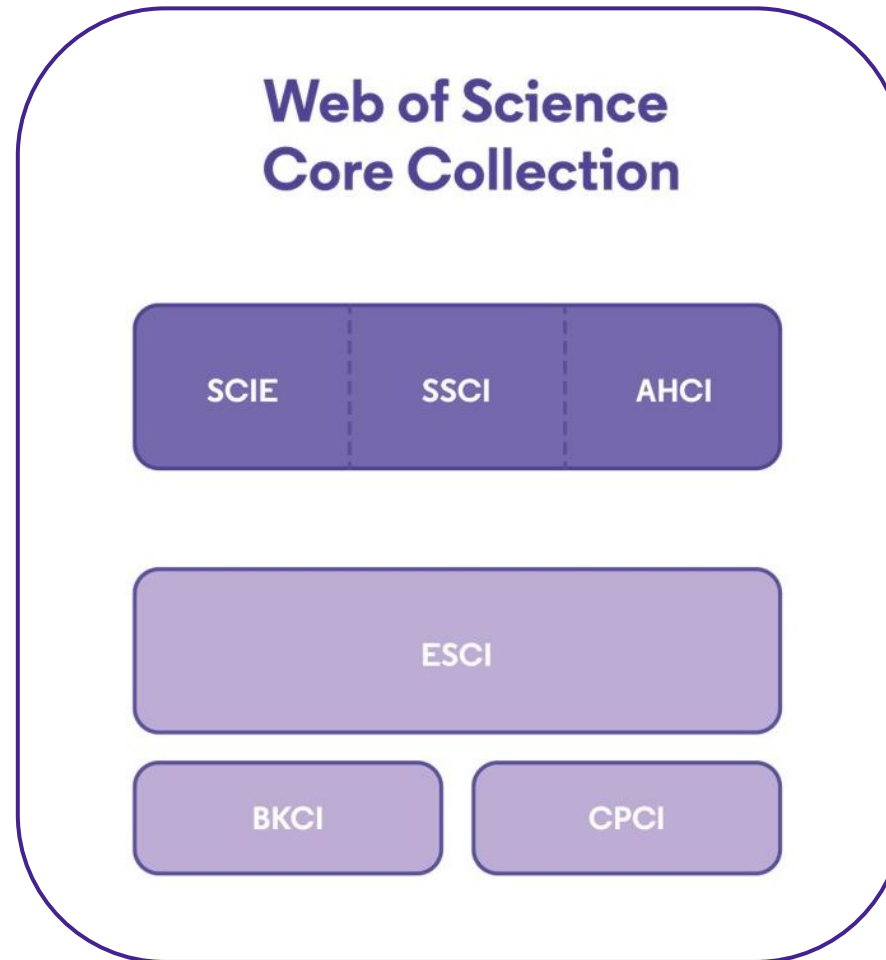
**111,000+**

Books



# The Web of Science Core Collection

At the heart of the Web of  
Science platform



Science Citation Index  
Expanded (**SCIE**)

Social Sciences Citation Index  
(**SSCI**)

Arts & Humanities Citation  
Index (**AHCI**)

Emerging Sources Citation  
Index (**ESCI**)

Books Citation Index (**BKCI**)

Conference Proceedings  
Citation Index (**CPCI**)

# Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

# Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

- Conducted by a team of expert in-house editors.
- Not affiliated to publishers or research institutions.
- Each editor focuses on specific subject categories, getting a deep knowledge of the publishing landscape in that field.
- Journal data and information are collected by the editors independently rather than relying on data provided by the publishers.
- We do not use algorithmic approaches or delegate any editorial decisions on the research community.
- All editors use the same set of 24 quality and 4 impact criteria for all the journals.

# Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

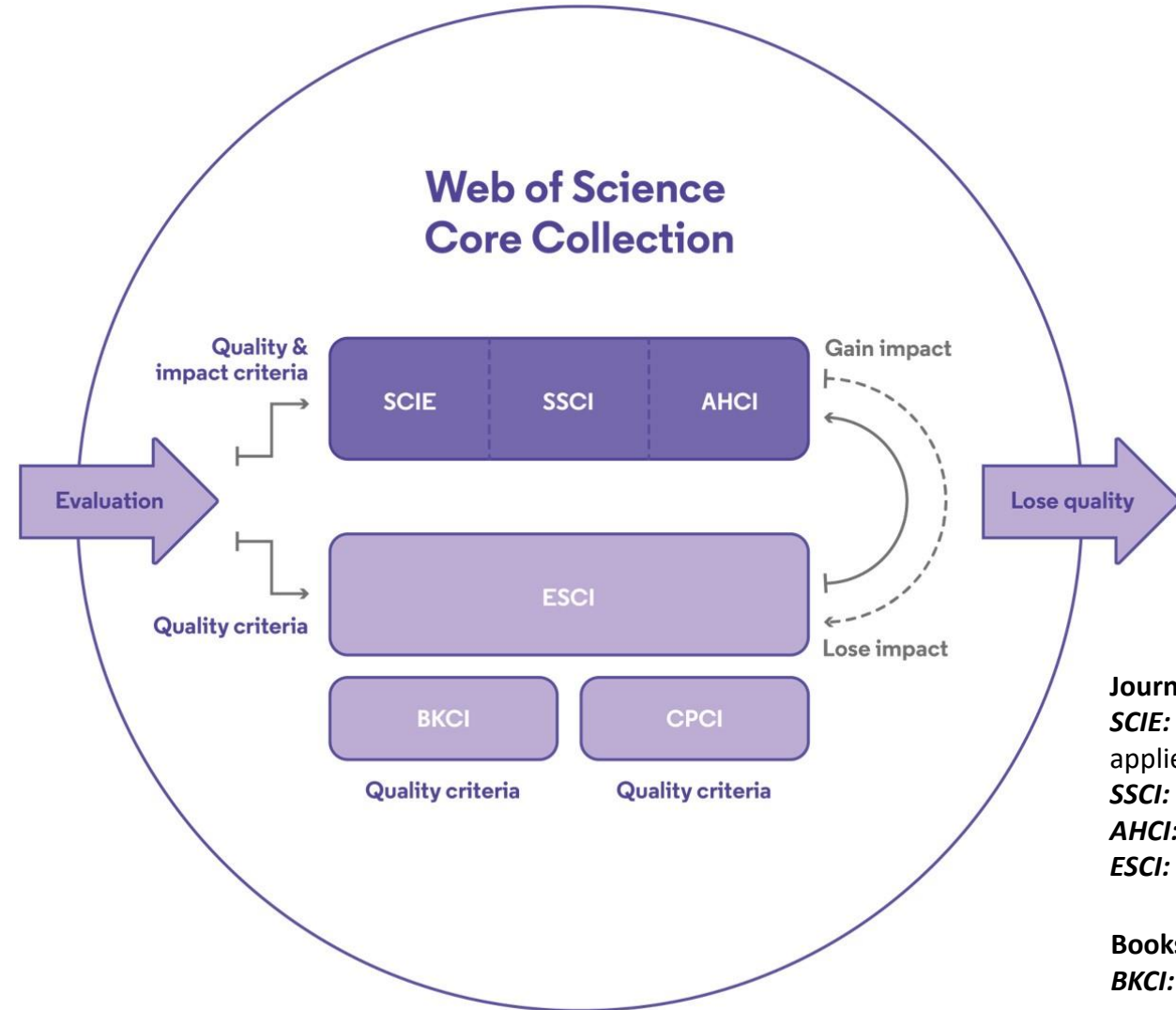
Journals that meet the quality criteria enter ESCI

Journals that meet quality and impact criteria enter SCIE, SSCI or AHCI

ESCI journals that gain impact move to SCIE, SSCI or AHCI

SCIE, SSCI and AHCI journals that decrease in impact move to ESCI

Any journal that fails to meet all quality criteria will be removed from the *Web of Science Core Collection*



## Journals

**SCIE:** clinical, natural and applied sciences  
**SSCI:** social sciences  
**AHCI:** arts & humanities  
**ESCI:** all disciplines

## Books

**BKCI:** all disciplines

## Conference Proceedings

**CPCI:** all disciplines

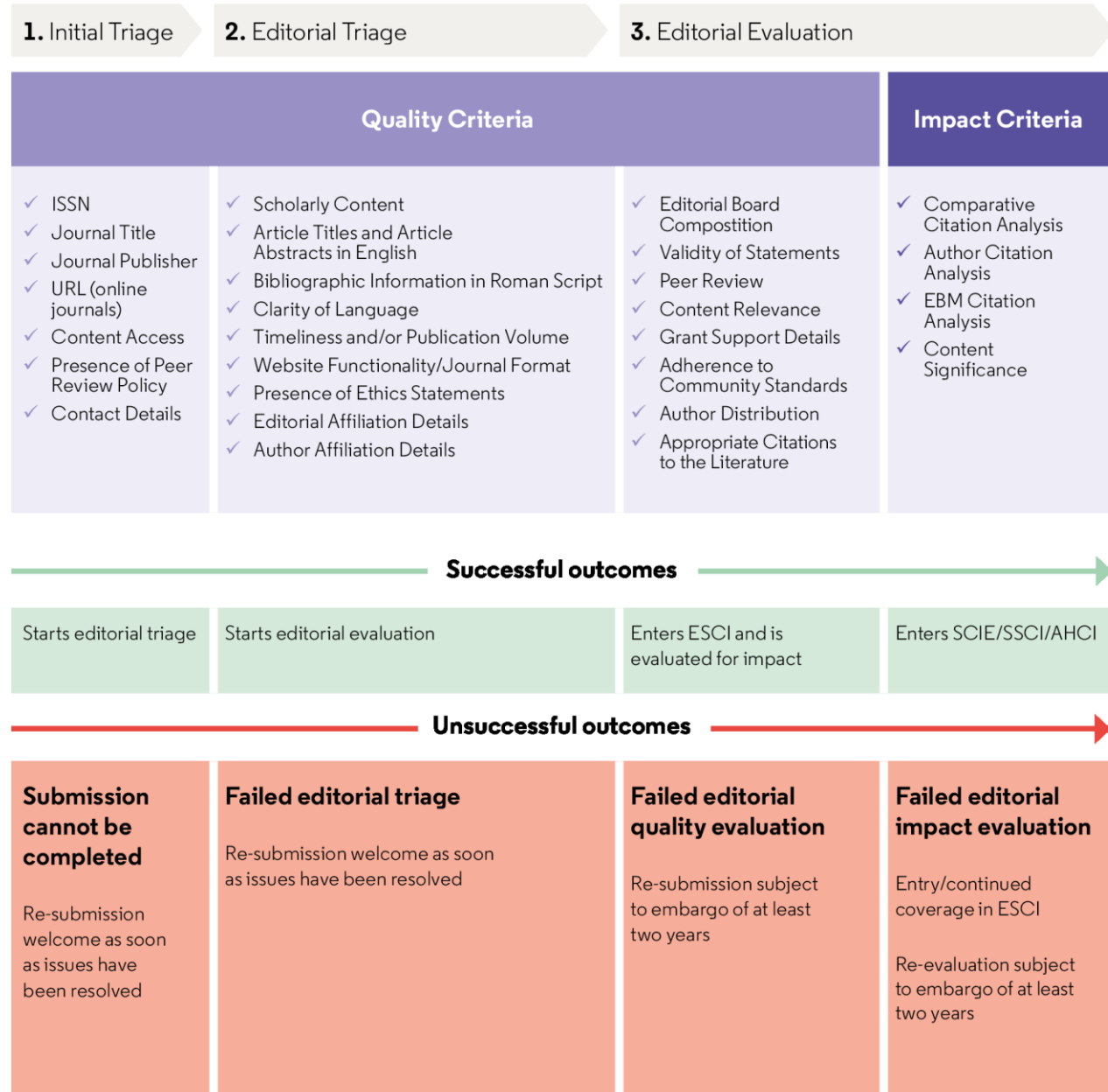


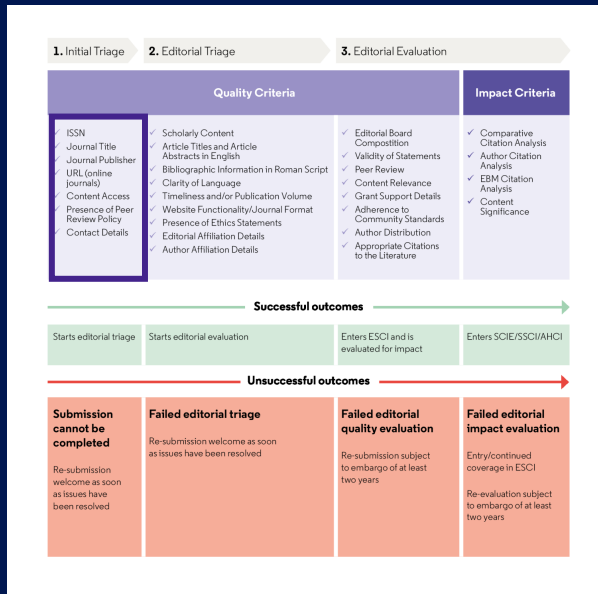
# Journal Evaluation Process

**28**  
selection criteria in total

**24**  
quality criteria to select for editorial rigor and publishing best practice

**4**  
impact criteria to select for the most impactful journals





The **Initial triage** stage ensures unambiguous identification of the journal, access to content and contacts.

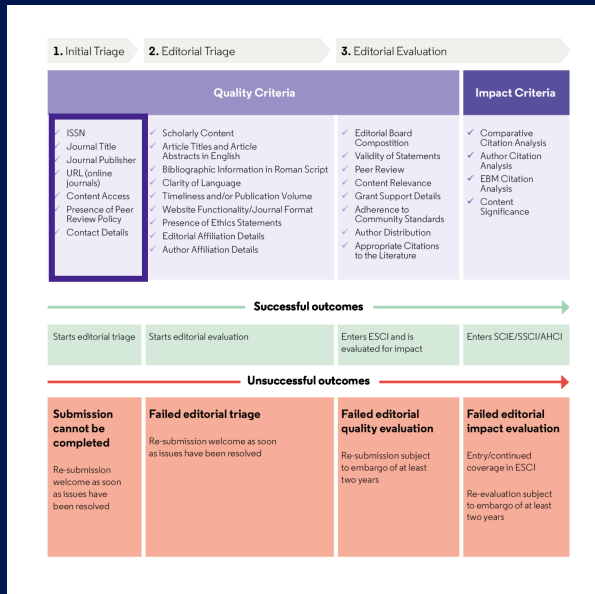
- ✓ ISSN
- ✓ Journal Title
- ✓ Journal Publisher
- ✓ URL (online journals)
- ✓ Content Access
- ✓ Presence of Peer Review Policy
- ✓ Contact Details

## Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)



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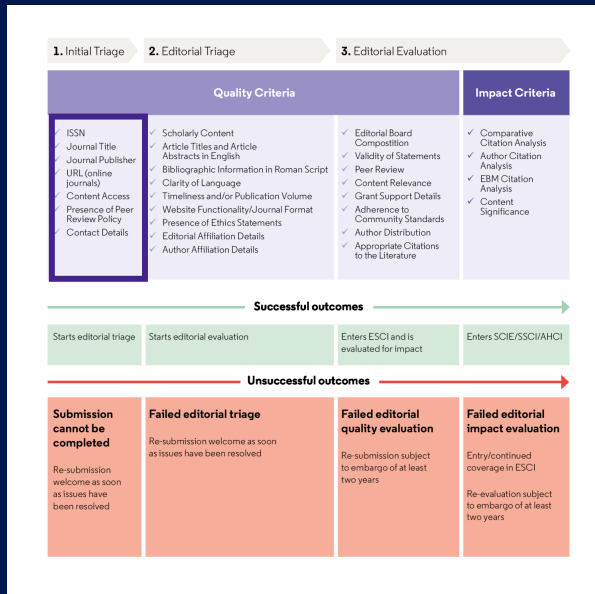
**Initial Triage** → Re-submission (no embargo)

Editorial Triage

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Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

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Initial Triage ✓

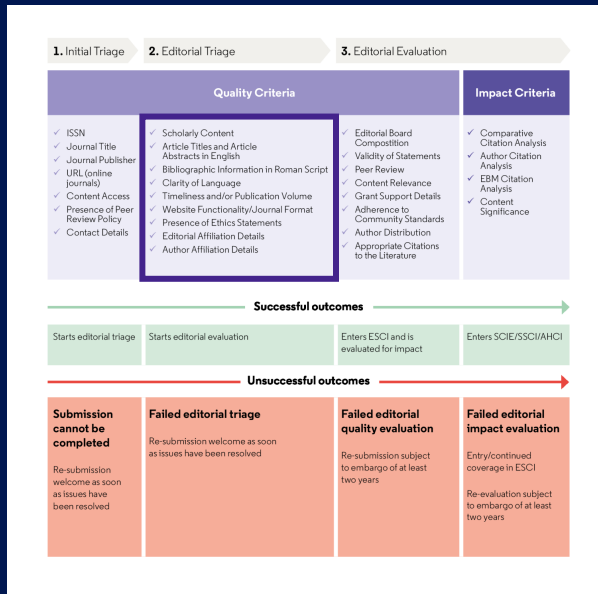
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**Editorial Triage** determines if the journal merits a complete in-depth evaluation. Basic editorial practices are reviewed.



Initial Triage

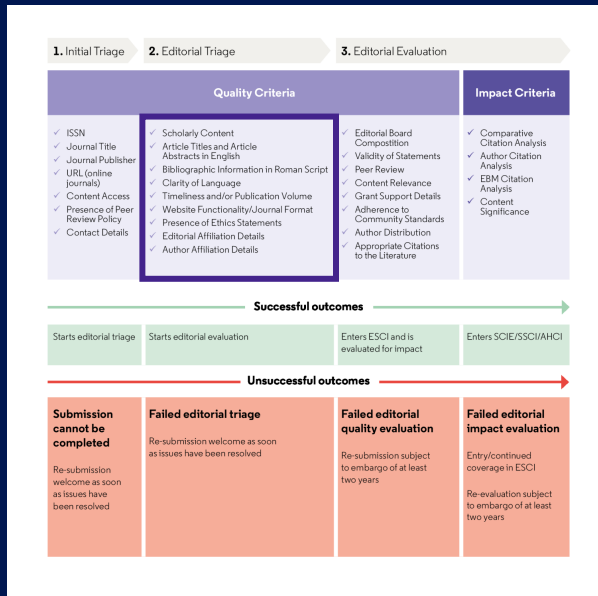
**Editorial Triage**

Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

- ✓ Scholarly content
- ✓ Article Titles and Article Abstracts in English
- ✓ Bibliographic Information in Roman Script
- ✓ Clarity of language
- ✓ Timeliness and/or Publication Volume
- ✓ Website Functionality/Journal format
- ✓ Presence of Ethics Statements
- ✓ Editorial Affiliation Details
- ✓ Author Affiliation Details

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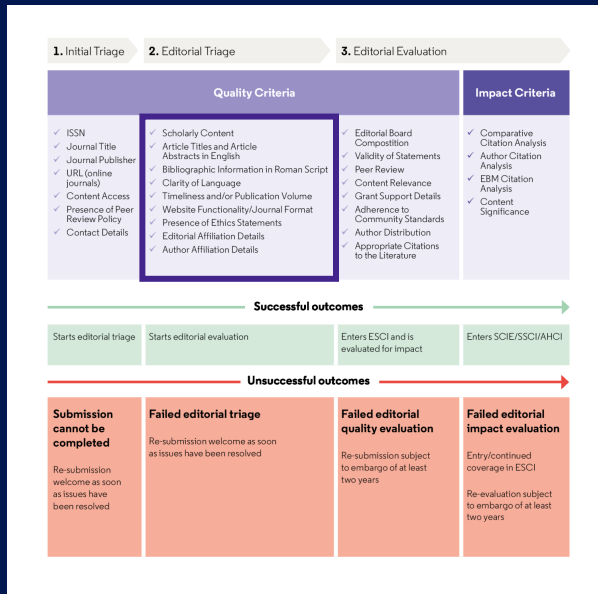
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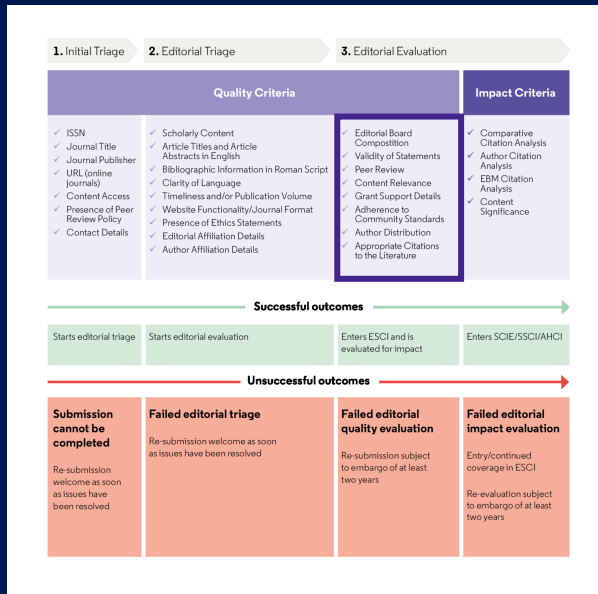
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At the **Quality** step we check the alignment of the journal's title and scope with the editorial board and published content. Evidence of **editorial rigour** is also sought for.



Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

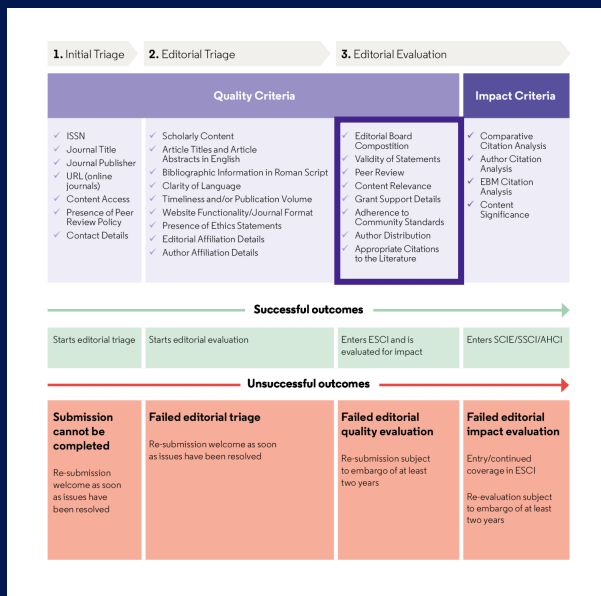
**Editorial Evaluation (Quality)**

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

- ✓ Editorial Board Composition
- ✓ Validity of Statements
- ✓ Peer Review
- ✓ Content Relevance
- ✓ Grant Support Details
- ✓ Adherence to Community Standards
- ✓ Author Distribution
- ✓ Appropriate Citations to the Literature



At the **Quality** step we check the alignment of the journal's title and scope with the editorial board and published content. Evidence of **editorial rigour** is also sought for.



Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

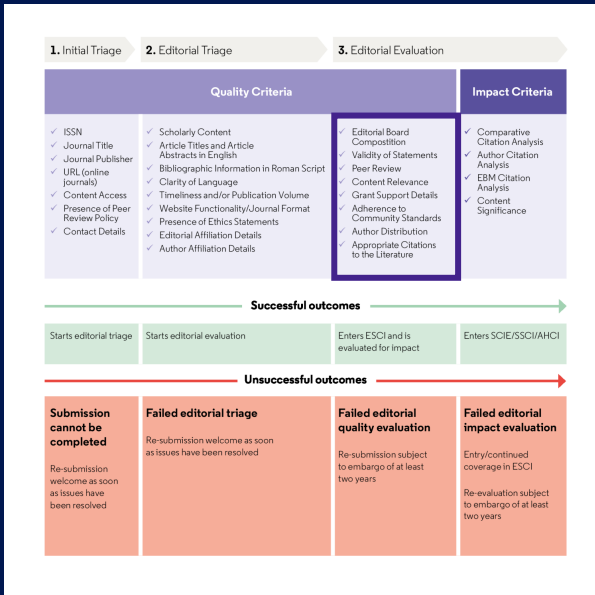
**Editorial Evaluation (Quality)**

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

Re-submission (2-year embargo)

- ✓ Editorial Board Composition
- ✓ Validity of Statements
- ✓ Peer Review
- ✓ Content Relevance
- ✓ Grant Support Details
- ✓ Adherence to Community Standards
- ✓ Author Distribution
- ✓ Appropriate Citations to the Literature

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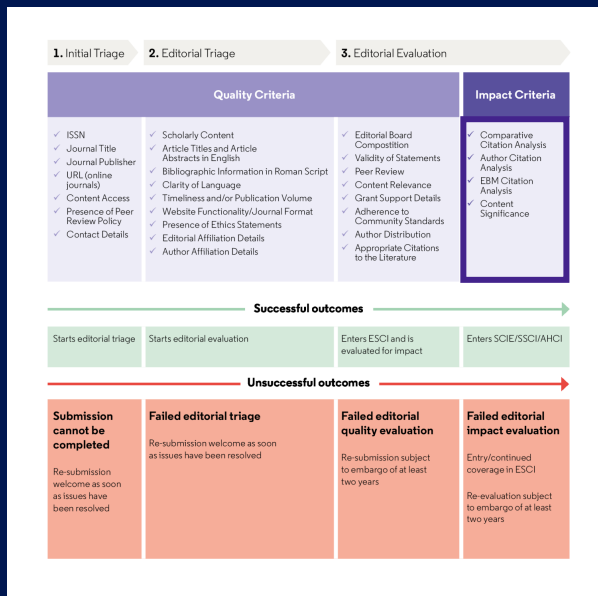
Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

**Editorial Evaluation (Quality)** ✓

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

- ✓ Editorial Board Composition
- ✓ Validity of Statements
- ✓ Peer Review
- ✓ Content Relevance
- ✓ Grant Support Details
- ✓ Adherence to Community Standards
- ✓ Author Distribution
- ✓ Appropriate Citations to the Literature



Criteria at the **Impact** evaluation step are designed to select the **most influential journals** in the field. **Citation activity** and uniqueness of the journal **content** are the main indicators.

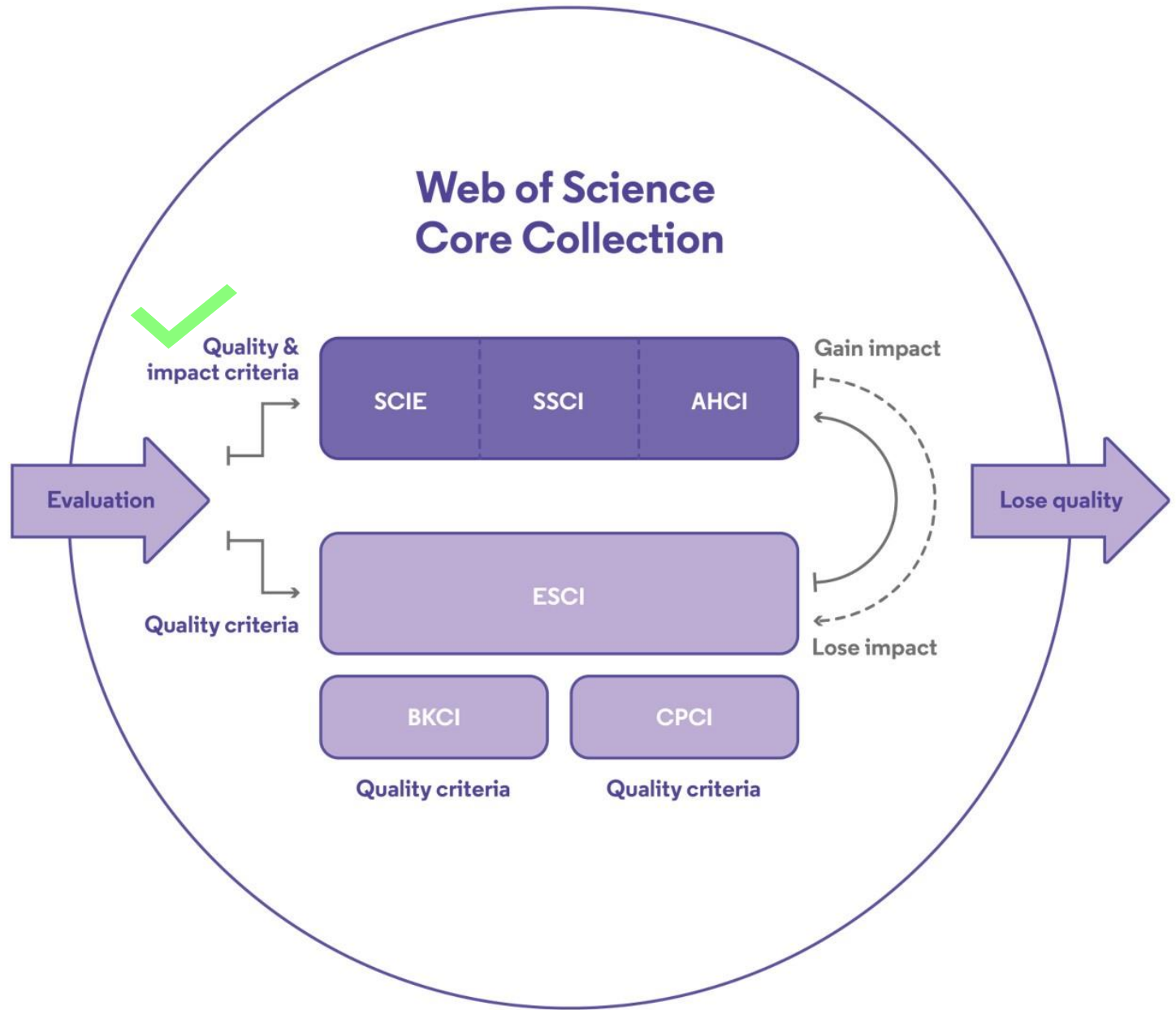
Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

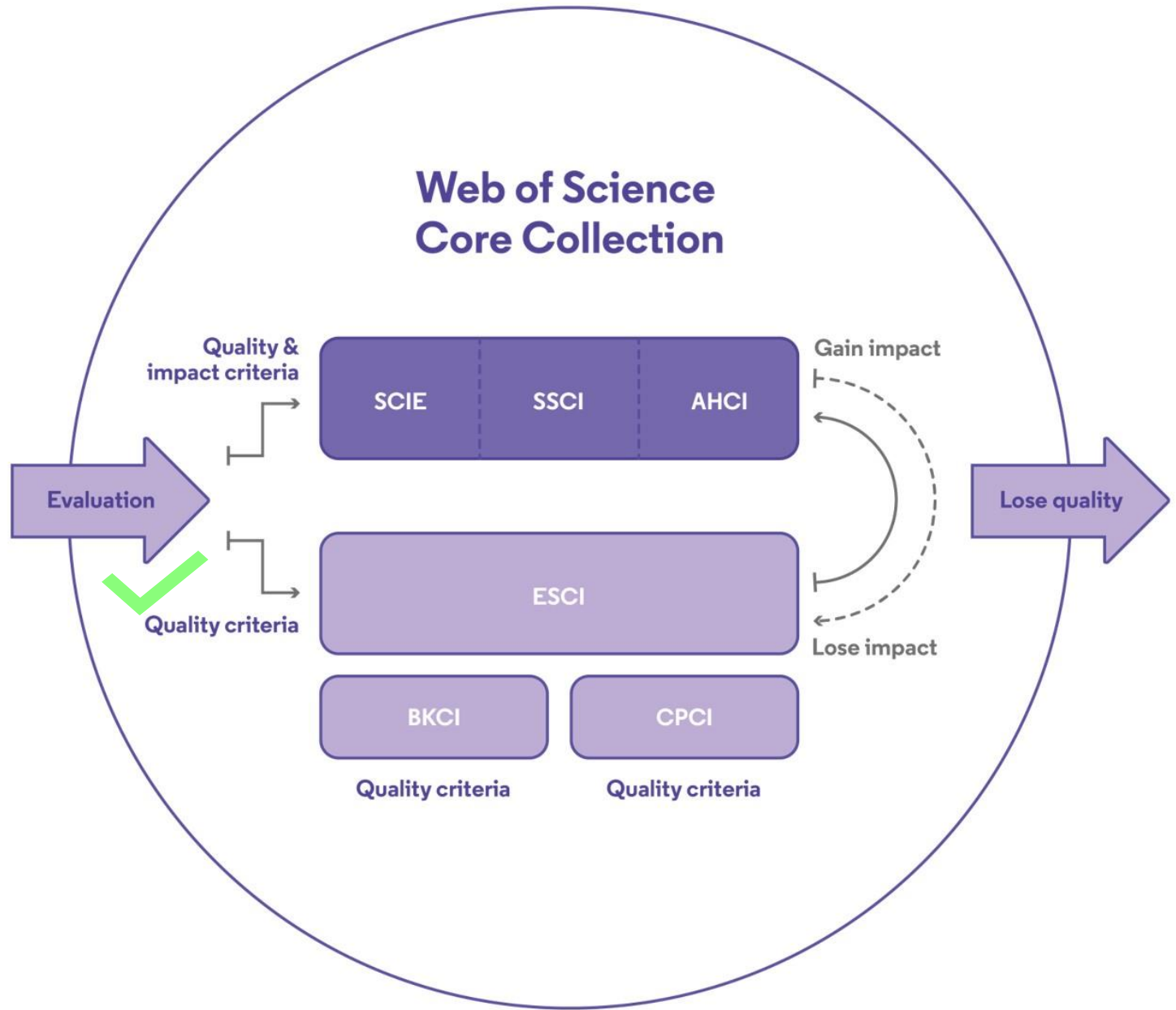
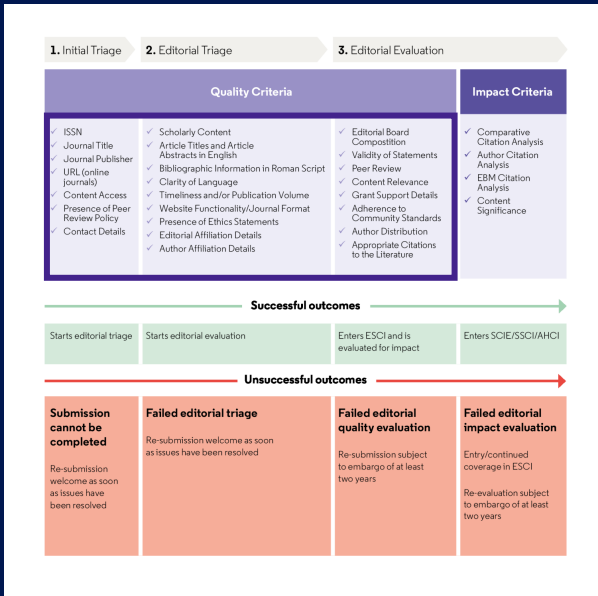
Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

**Editorial Evaluation (Impact)**

- ✓ Comparative Citation Analysis
- ✓ Author Citation Analysis
- ✓ EBM Citation Analysis
- ✓ Content Significance



- Initial Triage ✓
- Editorial Triage ✓
- Editorial Evaluation (Quality) ✓
- Editorial Evaluation (Impact) ✓



Initial Triage ✓

Editorial Triage ✓

Editorial Evaluation (Quality) ✓

Editorial Evaluation (Impact) ✗

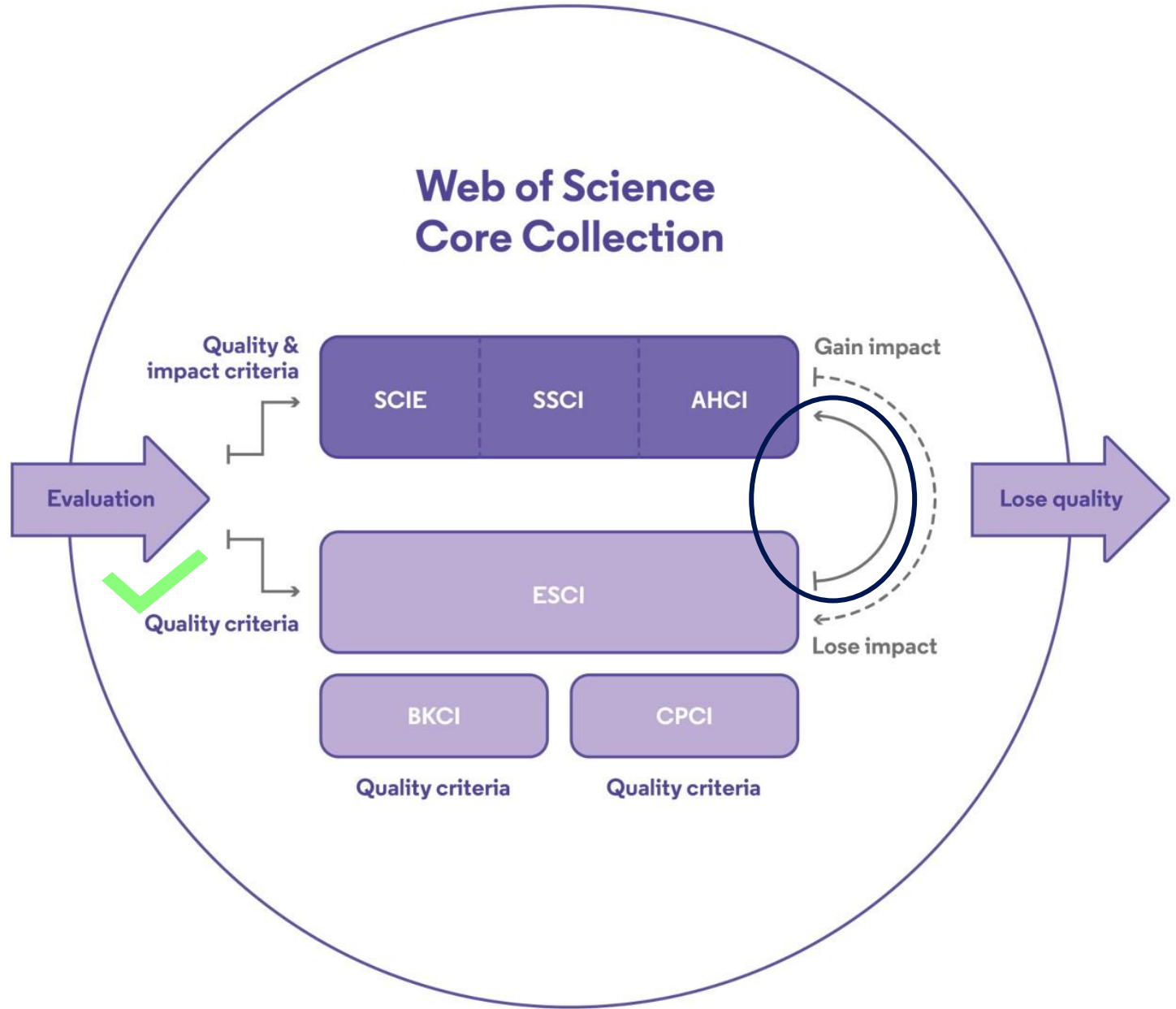
1. Initial Triage			2. Editorial Triage			3. Editorial Evaluation				
Quality Criteria						Impact Criteria				
✓ ISSN	✓ Scholarly Content	✓ Editorial Board Composition	✓ Comparative Citation Analysis	✓ Author Citation Analysis	✓ Content Significance	✓ Journal Title	✓ Article Titles and Article Abstracts in English	✓ Validity of Statements	✓ Peer Review	✓ EBM Citation Analysis
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Successful outcomes			
Starts editorial triage	Starts editorial evaluation	Enters ESCI and is evaluated for impact	Enters SCIE/SSCI/AHCI

Unsuccessful outcomes			
<b>Submission cannot be completed</b> Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved	<b>Failed editorial triage</b> Re-submission welcome as soon as issues have been resolved	<b>Failed editorial quality evaluation</b> Re-submission subject to embargo of at least two years	<b>Failed editorial impact evaluation</b> Re-evaluation subject to embargo of at least two years



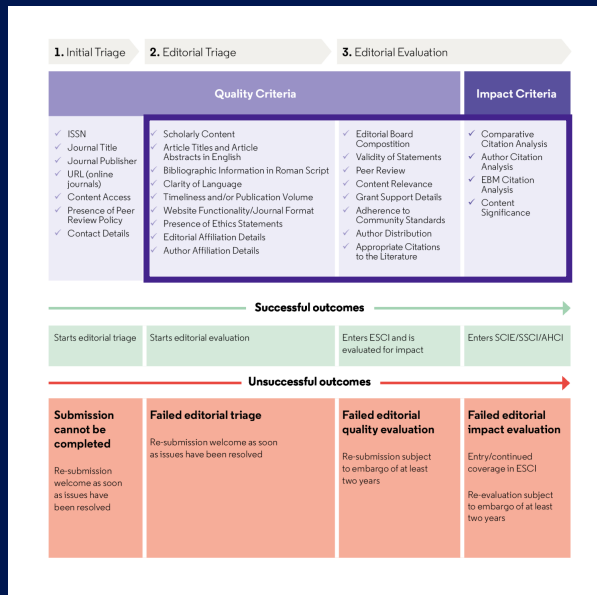
Initial Triage ✓

Editorial Triage ✓

Editorial Evaluation (Quality) ✓

Editorial Evaluation (Impact) ✗

# Collection Dynamics



Initial Triage

Editorial Triage

Editorial Evaluation (Quality)

Editorial Evaluation (Impact)

- Re-evaluations are prioritised for journals that display high citation performance.
- We **monitor** the citation performance of **all journals indexed in ESCI** and perform a re-evaluation when indicators show that the impact criteria may be met.
- The re-evaluation process starts at the Editorial Triage stage. Journals are **re-evaluated for Quality** first; **Impact evaluation is subject to quality** being met.
- The **first half** of the year is dedicated to **new evaluations**, the **second half** to **re-evaluations**. We continuously evaluate journals for quality.

# Web of Science Publisher Portal



Publisher

+ Submit Journal



### Journals (103)

Journal title	Status <span>ⓘ</span>	ISSN	E-ISSN	Date Submitted <span>↓</span>
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 07, 2019
[blurred]	Pending	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 04, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 04, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 04, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 03, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 03, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 03, 2019
[blurred]	Accepted	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 02, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 02, 2019
[blurred]	Under Evaluation	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 02, 2019
[blurred]	Rejected	[blurred]	[blurred]	Oct 01, 2019

# New Evaluation Request

Publisher

## Steps

- 1 ISSN Check
- 2 Language
- 3 Journal Details
- 4 Access Information
- 5 Contact Information
- 6 Summary

Progress

Step 1 of 6

## Hints

**Important Note:** ✕

- Journals submitted with incomplete access information will not be evaluated.

If you require more information, please read our [Journal Selection Essay](#) for a description of the evaluation process.

## ISSN Check

Please note the ISSN(s) cannot be changed or added after proceeding to the next page. If you need to change any ISSN(s) after clicking the Next button, you will need to re-enter all other information.

### Enter your ISSN

ISSN

Confirm ISSN

This journal does not have a print ISSN

---

Online ISSN

Confirm ISSN

This journal does not have an online ISSN

Next →

# Web of Science Journal Evaluation Process and Selection Criteria

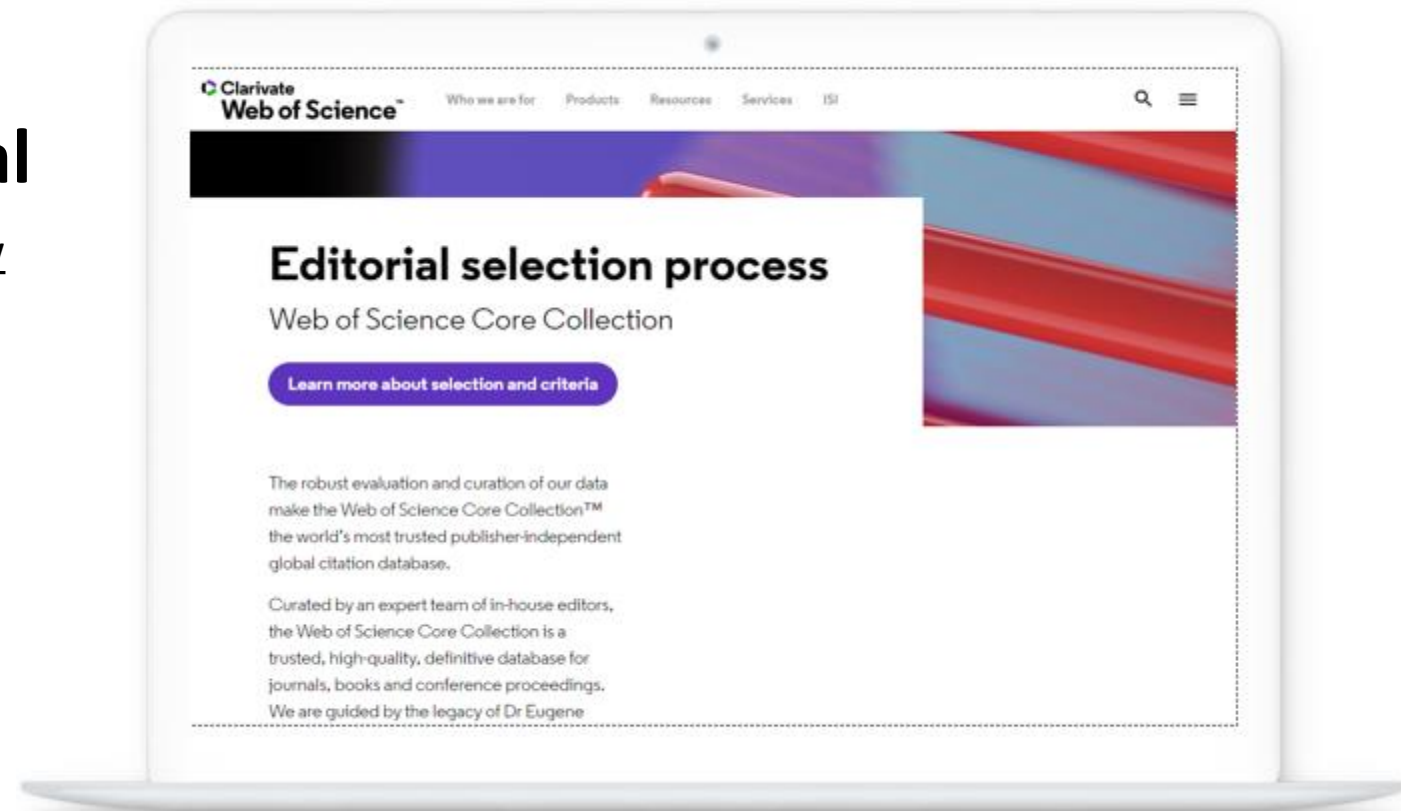
<https://clarivate.com/webofsciencegroup/journal-evaluation-process-and-selection-criteria/>

## Web of Science Publisher Portal

<https://clarivate.com/webofsciencegroup/support/wospublisherportal/>

## Web of Science Academy

<https://clarivate.com/webofsciencegroup/solutions/web-of-science-academy/>





**Questions?**

