

*Law and Human Behavior's* two-stage process for registered reports is based on the Center for Open Science Guidelines (<https://cos.io/rr/>). A Stage 1 registered report proposal must include the following elements (adapted from [https://osf.io/93znh/?\\_ga=2.212010961.450110808.1587672236-550756979.1586912122](https://osf.io/93znh/?_ga=2.212010961.450110808.1587672236-550756979.1586912122)).

1. Identify the main research question(s) your study will address. How does it flow logically from prior research? How will the findings (whether statistically significant or not) meaningfully advance our scientific understanding?
2. Describe the independent variables, specifically how they will be operationalized and manipulated or measured in your study.
3. Describe the dependent variables, specifically how you will measure each of them. This should include all the measures you plan on collecting.
4. State the hypotheses. Each hypothesis should include the specific independent variable and/or levels being compared, the direction of the expected difference or relationship, and the dependent variable on which the independent variable is being measured and compared. In that sense, it is not enough to say "We expect an interaction of X and Y on Z" – instead, you need to state the specific pattern of effects you predict.
5. Include the study procedures/protocol and provide examples of the stimulus materials.
5. Determine how many participants you will collect and the rule you will use to terminate data collection. Ensure that your stopping rule accounts for data exclusions. If adopting null hypothesis significance testing, what statistical power will your study achieve? What effect size will you target and why? If adopting Bayesian sampling methods, what is your prior? And what is your criterion Bayes factor for asserting relative support of the null or alternative hypothesis, or your maximum resource limit?
6. State the inclusion criteria. How will participants be recruited/included and under what specific rules?
7. State the exclusion criteria (e.g., conditions involving data quality, completeness, and outliers). Be sure to specify the rules for excluding data at the level of samples/participants and at the level of raw data.
8. Describe the manipulation, attention, and quality checks you will perform to ensure that your methodology is capable of testing your study's hypotheses. Ensure that these checks are adequately sampled and powered. You may wish to conduct pilot testing here to ensure manipulations are perceived as intended. If the manipulation checks fail, how will you proceed?
9. Specify the analyses you will conduct to examine the hypotheses. Ensure there is an exact correspondence between each hypothesis and each statistical test. If your analysis strategy depends on the results (e.g., normal vs. non-normal distribution) then specify contingencies for making different choices. Please make this clear by including a table or figure.

10. Provide a timeline for your study. Confirm you have obtained IRB approval and that necessary support (e.g., funding, facilities, personnel) exists.
11. Be sure to clearly distinguish between work that has already been done (e.g., pilot study) from work that is planned.
12. Provide a data management plan that covers the data to be protected, who will be responsible for the data, and policies for data access and sharing. Note: If your proposal receives an “in-principle acceptance” (described below), you will be required to register your study methodology and materials on Open Science Framework prior to data collection. After publication, you must share your data and meta-data on OSF or in another public archive. That is, your manuscript should meet the requirements for the following open science badges awarded by *Law and Human Behavior*: Open Data (or Open Data: Protected Access), Open Materials, and Preregistered+Analysis Plan (see <https://www.apa.org/pubs/authors/open-practices-disclosure-form.pdf>).

Upon submission of a Stage 1 registered report proposal, the Editor or an Associate Editor will guide the review process. Similar to a regular manuscript, a Stage 1 registered report proposal may receive one of several decisions: Rejection, Major Revision, Minor Revision, or In-principle Acceptance (IPA). To be clear, we expect to reserve IPA decisions for those papers that make substantial theoretical and/or practical contributions to the field regardless of the specific findings and whether the hypotheses are supported.

If the Stage 1 registered report proposal receives an IPA decision, we will move to a Stage 2 review when the study is complete. In the Stage 2 review, authors will submit a final manuscript for the completed study. The rationale, methodology, and hypotheses for the manuscript would be the same as in the original proposal. Authors would also need to include the outcome of all registered analyses. Any analyses not included in the Stage 1 proposal must be distinguished as exploratory in the Stage 2 manuscript.

For Stage 2 review, we will do our best to use the same experts who reviewed the original proposal. We will ask reviewers to evaluate whether (a) the design and data were able to test the hypotheses (i.e., were manipulation and attention checks successful); (b) the rationale, methodology, hypotheses, and analyses are congruent with the Stage 1 proposal; and (c) any exploratory analyses were warranted; and (d) the conclusions and implications for research, practice, and law were justified based on the data.

We will not base our Stage 2 editorial decisions on the perceived importance, novelty, or conclusiveness of the results, but instead based on the fidelity between the Stage 1 proposal and the final study. The result of a Stage 2 review could be Acceptance, Major Revision, Minor Revision, or Rejection based only on the failure to meet one or more of the criteria specified in the preceding paragraph.

Please contact Editor-in-Chief, Bradley McAuliff ([bradley.mcauliff@csun.edu](mailto:bradley.mcauliff@csun.edu)), with any questions as you prepare a Stage 1 registered report proposal. We look forward to the opportunity to consider your registered reports and hope you will continue to use the journal as an outlet for your best work.

Sincerely,

The Law and Human Behavior Editorial Team

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