

Guidelines for JREF site contributors

JREF wants to publish your high-quality short articles, commentary, features, and more.

The JREF is looking to share quality content relating to our educational mission to advance science, evidence-based skepticism, and critical thinking skills. We encourage writers to submit their potential contributions.

The editor is looking for short articles, commentary, features (such as in depth research or investigation results), letters to Randi, Q&A pieces (question with expert answer), media reviews, interviews, event announcements, and relevant press releases. There are a few exceptions, but in general, we prefer original pieces.

We are seeking regular contributors, but we will also accept one-time and occasional submissions. Experienced or regular contributors may be compensated for quality work. For the contributions our editor selects, we will promote your work on the JREF site and through social media.

There are many appropriate subjects for the JREF audience

Many topics are of interest to the JREF audience. Examples of skepticism topics include

Reporting, analysis, or commentary on questionable claims of all types

- o Paranormal subjects
- o Supernatural claims
- o Mysteries and the unknown

Critical thinking

Kid-focused themes, including skeptical parenting

Local-themed stories

Historical research

Consumer issues

Skeptical advocacy and activism

Some topics will not be accepted, including the following—

Personal claims of paranormal abilities

Anti-religion pieces

Anti-science topics

Eyewitness accounts of questionable claims (unless in context of critical thinking)

Promotions for products

Acceptance

We will let you know via email if your potential contribution is accepted.

We are sorry that the JREF cannot respond to all submissions. (If you receive no response from the JREF within 1 month of your submission, you may assume it is no longer under consideration.)

Important Details

Audience

Write for a general public audience. Pieces that contain too much jargon or are beyond a standard reading level are inappropriate.

Tone

The tone of submissions should be friendly, educational, and entertaining. Scholarly pieces may be accepted but should be readable and appeal to general audiences. Humor is encouraged; snark and ridicule are not. The goal is to persuade the audience to listen, not to make them tune out.

Libel

JREF will not publish any language or statements that may be considered libelous.

Editing

All material may be edited for grammar, length, and appropriateness.

Layout

Articles and features will be posted on the JREF website under the "Swift" label.

Fair Use

Please follow fair use provisions, attribute all quotes, use references, and provide links as appropriate.

Format

The preferred file format for submissions is MS Word, Open Office (.odt) or RTF format. We cannot accept PDFs.

The length of submissions should be between 300-2000 words. If you are contemplating a longer feature piece, please inquire with a proposal beforehand.

All photos submitted must be publishable on the website. They must be free of copyright claims or you must provide permission to use the copyrighted photos. Appropriate credit will be given.

Author information

First time submitters should include 2-3 sentences describing who you are that will be used in the posting.