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Request for Letters of Interest to Host the Editorial Office for *Journal of Policy Implementation & Evaluation (JPIE)*

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APPAM is seeking letters from organizations/editors interested in becoming the editorial home for its new journal, **Journal of Policy Implementation & Evaluation (JPIE)**. JPIE will serve as a platform for academic researchers and public and private sector practitioners, from a variety of disciplines to publish short, timely, relevant, and publicly impactful research articles on a range of topics related to policy design, implementation, evaluation, and translation. *Journal of Policy Implementation & Evaluation (JPIE)* will welcome contributions from researchers in a variety of disciplines, including economics, political science, public administration, public management, public policy, sociology, and other related fields. The journal will also welcome contributions that study a wide array of policies, programs, take-up, and trends in populations served and that employ a wide variety of design techniques, including causal, experimental, quasi-experimental, mixed-methods, and descriptive methodologies.

Why JPIE? Why Now?

APPAM has been considering launching a new journal for over a decade, motivated in part by the sustained growth in submissions to its flagship journal, the *Journal of Policy Analysis & Management (JPAM),* which have more than doubled in the last 10 years. As the acceptance rate has fallen, this growth underscores strong demand for an additional high-quality outlet serving scholars in public policy and management. At the same time, there is increasing interest in research that delivers focused, policy-relevant insights into specific questions, implementation challenges, and emerging issues. While JPAM remains the premier outlet for comprehensive and fully developed scholarly contributions, there is clear value in a complementary journal that features shorter, peer-reviewed articles with a more targeted and focused scope, and a direct emphasis

on policy design, evaluation, and implementation.

Launching JPIE responds to these developments and aligns with broader trends in the social sciences toward publishing concise, focused research that remains rigorous while being accessible to policymakers and practitioners. In doing so, JPIE would expand APPAM's publication portfolio and enhance the dissemination of impactful and timely scholarship.

How Will it Work?

JPIE will be a quarterly, online journal. It will be a hybrid journal; some articles will be subscription-based, and some will be open access.

Submission Guidelines:

- Manuscripts must be original work
- They can be no longer than 7,000 words, and each exhibit (table, figure, or illustration) reduces the maximum number of words by 200
- The maximum number of exhibits (tables or figures) is 5
- Each submission must include a one-page, structured summary of research questions, results, and implications for policy and practice

Peer Review Process:

- Each article goes through rigorous peer review, but the review process is streamlined, as described below
- Reviews are limited to one round of revisions
- Authors are asked to respond to revisions recommended by the editor and external reviews and then the editor decides whether to accept or reject the revised article without further consultation with external reviewers

Interaction with JPAM

JPIE will complement JPAM while maintaining a distinct identity. It will feature shorter articles focused on clearly defined policy questions, implementation challenges, and empirical insights relevant to policy and practice. The journal will also welcome high quality descriptive research.

JPIE will be distinct from the Policy Insights section of JPAM. That section features short essays that are a maximum of 3,000 words and are designed to foster debate and discussion on important policy issues. The submissions are not peer-reviewed and feature descriptive overviews of trends (like declining academic achievement or why pre-school programs are becoming less effective) and assessments of root causes and contributors. They have also included policy proposals (like a targeted state child tax credit) and more opinion-based pieces. JPIE will feature longer research articles that are

not advocacy pieces and more commonly include new empirical work, all of which is peer-reviewed.

Timeline/Next Steps/Important Info

An RFP is currently being circulated among academic publishers, and the APPAM Policy Council expects to select a publisher in late spring. Until then, financial information and the identity of a publisher cannot be shared. ***The deadline to submit a letter of interest is Wednesday, April 1st.*** APPAM is looking for a five-year commitment from an editor/editorial home. The first issue of JPIE is expected to debut in early 2027. ***Please note: only those who submit an LOI by April 1st will be provided the full RFP, with financial and publisher information.*** As a new journal, this role offers the editor meaningful discretion to help shape its direction and identity. While peer-review and submission guidelines are well defined, APPAM and its Board expect to allow flexibility in journal management beyond those core requirements.

What to Include in a Letter

- The name, current position, institutional affiliation, and CV of the editor/editorial team
- Confirmation that the university/organization is interested and supportive of potentially hosting the editorial office of JPIE
- Description of key skills, accomplishments, prior roles, relevant research and experience that would be applicable for the JPIE editor/editorial team
- Reactions to the concept, as laid out above
- Vision for the *Journal of Policy Implementation & Evaluation (JPIE),* and how it might fit into the landscape of the public policy research field
- Overview of the approach for leading a brand-new journal and garnering interest, submissions, and reviewers

Questions?

Contact Tara Sheehan, APPAM Executive Director, tsheehan@appam.org.