



SUBMISSIONS FAQ

1. How can I submit to PJ Library or PJ Our Way?

PJ Library & PJ Our Way now accept submissions through Submittable only at submissions.pjlibrary.org. See [our guide](#) for more information about this process.

We encourage submitters to carefully review our submissions guidelines at pjlibrary.org/manuscripts.

2. Do I need to include a cover letter with my submission?

A cover letter isn't necessary. If there's something that you feel PJ Library or PJ Our Way needs to know in order to consider your submission properly, you may add a short note within the submissions form.

3. Can I submit my manuscript via Dropbox, WeTransfer, or another third-party platform?

No. PJ Library & PJ Our Way now accept submissions through Submittable only at submissions.pjlibrary.org.

4. Can I submit my manuscript to publishers at the same time?

Yes. PJ Library and PJ Our Way accept submissions of already-published books as well as manuscripts that are under contract with a publisher.

5. What is PJ Publishing?

PJ Library has its own imprint that specializes in producing books for our programs. PJ Publishing has developed an expertise in board books and special projects with a limited number of published works per year. Manuscripts accepted by our Book Selection Committee without an existing publisher are automatically reviewed by PJ Publishing. Manuscripts can't be submitted solely for PJ Publishing consideration; all manuscripts are submitted in the same way and go through the same selection process.

6. Do I need an agent in order to work with PJ Library or PJ Our Way?

Absolutely not! While we are pleased to work with agents, many PJ Library and PJ Our Way authors don't have an agent.

7. Whom can I contact about the status of my submission?

We respectfully ask that authors and agents do not contact PJ Library or PJ Our Way to check the status of a submission. The Book Selection Committees' decisions can be accessed through your Submittable account.

8. What happens once PJ's Book Selection Committee accepts my manuscript?

When a submission is accepted, the chair of the Book Selection Committee contacts the author to share the good news and discuss next steps. Generally, this involves deciding which publishers will be offered the project and how that will be accomplished. The author may choose to "shop" the manuscript her/himself; if the author has an agent, the agent may submit to publishers. The chair of the BSC is happy to support this process.

9. Is my manuscript eligible for the Author Incentive Award?

All new, previously unpublished manuscripts submitted after July 22, 2016 are eligible for the Author Incentive Award (AIA) after acceptance by the Book Selection Committee, provided they meet the program's guidelines. Manuscripts should not be submitted specifically for the AIA, since all manuscript submissions will be considered for this award. For information regarding each program's specific award, please visit pjlibrary.org/manuscripts.

10. Will I receive an advance or royalties for my book in the PJ Library or PJ Our Way line-up?

Authors and illustrators are paid directly by the publisher who accepts the book. PJ Library and PJ Our Way are not involved in author/publisher contract negotiations, the contracts themselves, or payment to authors and illustrators.

11. How many words does my manuscript need to be?

PJ Library: Your book needs to be the right number of words for you to tell your story! PJ Library sends out many types of books, including board books, picture books, and early reader chapter books. We do not have a set word length but encourage authors to look to other published books in those formats for guidance.

PJ Our Way: PJ Our Way typically considers manuscripts that range between 10,000 and 60,000 words for inclusion in the program. For graphic novels, the

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word count is flexible – graphic novels currently used in the lineup range from 100 – 150 pages.

12. How do I know if my book idea will be of interest to the committee?

Please see our website for book ideas and high-need areas. We also encourage you to peruse both [PJ Library's](#) and [PJ Our Way's](#) current lineups to get a sense for what kinds of books we offer. These suggestions and resources are by no means comprehensive but instead are meant as a starting point for potential book topics.

13. I have a question that wasn't answered here.

Please see pjlibrary.org/manuscripts for detailed information regarding the submissions process. If you require further assistance, we invite you to email us at the following addresses:

PJ LIBRARY

Submissions-related questions – submissions@pjlibrary.org

General questions about the program – pjlibrary@hgf.org

PJ OUR WAY

Submissions-related questions – submissions@pjourway.org

General questions about the program – info@pjourway.org