

Ethics Code for the Journal of Japan Association for Earthquake Engineering

Established on October 10, 2019

The Japan Association for Earthquake Engineering (JAEE) has been promoting the publication of Journals that contribute to the development of academic research, engineering, and education related to earthquake engineering and earthquake disaster resilience, with the aim to reduce earthquake disasters. Technical Papers, Technical Reports, Technical Notes, Discussions, Overviews/Invited Papers (hereinafter called “articles”) published in the Journal of JAEE are deeply associated with the security of human lives and assets in the event of earthquakes, therefore efforts should be made in particular to maintain its accuracy, reliability, and accountability to our society. In addition, in regards to the research that precede the articles, personal rights of individuals who were subjects of surveys and academic research must be protected. In the review/publication process of articles, various rights of the authors, reviewers, and JAEE Journal Editorial Committee (hereinafter called “Editorial Committee”) members (hereinafter called “Editors”) must also be secured. This code is established with the objective to clarify the ethical responsibility of the authors, reviewers, and Editors, in order to further improve the academic quality and reliability of the published articles.

1. Responsibility of Authors

1.1 Requirements for Articles

Articles shall satisfy requirements as indicated in the Submission Rules for the Journal of JAEE, and must be of a standard that contributes to the development of earthquake engineering and earthquake disaster resilience.

1.2 Requirements for Authors

Authors of articles refer to, and shall be limited to all persons who have made substantial contribution to the completion of the said article, and are able to assume collective responsibility for its content. Furthermore, all authors must consent to the submission of the article. In regards to a deceased author, these conditions except requirements of collective responsibility and consent apply to be included as an author.

1.3 Prohibition of Duplicate Submission

The authors may not make a duplicate submission of a manuscript with content extremely similar to another article, to the journal that requires original articles.

1.4 Providing Sufficient Information

In articles, the authors must provide sufficient information to reproduce, examine, and evaluate the research, and demonstrate the process as evidence. In addition to conducting adequate research of related preceding studies, references must be cited with clear indication of the source.

1.5 Precautions Regarding References

When citing information from works of others, the authors must verify that it is accessible to the readers as well, and copyrights of the other authors must be taken into consideration. Citing and referencing contentiously based on academic evidence is allowed, but slandering and criticizing without solid reason is prohibited.

1.6 Prohibition of Fabrication, Falsification, and Plagiarism

Submitted articles may not include any fabricated or falsified information. Also, information may not be plagiarized from others.

1.7 Protecting the Rights of Survey/Research Subjects

When conducting preceding studies for the article, the authors shall not violate the rights of their subjects of research. In experiments, the subjects' life, health, privacy, and dignity must be protected.

1.8 Reporting Issues with Published Articles

In case it becomes clear that there is a serious error or an obvious violation of rights of others in articles already published, the authors must notify it to the Editorial Committee promptly and make efforts to resolve the issue.

2. Responsibility of a Reviewer

2.1 Role of a Reviewer

In compliance to the Review Rules for the Journal of JAEE, the reviewer must review in a fair and prompt manner, and report the results to the Editorial Committee. Review results must be stated logically in order for the Editors and authors to comprehend.

2.2 Declining Review Requests

In case the reviewer feels unfit to provide a fair review or cannot complete the review within the set time, the reviewer must decline the review task in a prompt manner.

2.3 Securing Objectivity of Reviews

Peer reviews must be objective and logical, in the light of contributing to the development of earthquake engineering and earthquake disaster resilience. Subjective and illogical reviews based on personal opinions and preferences based on feelings toward the authors, or the said article, must be strictly avoided.

2.4 Consideration for Authors

In reviews, the reviewer shall respect the personality and intellectual independence of the author(s) and must not describe review results questioning their integrity.

2.5 Confidentiality

The reviewer must not disclose the fact that he/she has accepted a review request nor any part of the content of the article under review.

2.6 Prohibition of Personal Usage by Reviewer

Until the article is published, the reviewer must not use its content for his/her own purposes.

2.7 Report to the Editorial Committee

If the reviewer determines that an article possibly violates this code, such that it is duplicated or has fabricated, falsified, or plagiarized material, he/she must promptly report it to the Editorial Committee.

3. Responsibilities of the Editorial Committee and Editors

3.1 A Fair and Prompt Review

In order to achieve the objectives set forth in this code, the Editorial Committee must provide a fair and prompt review in compliance with all the rules established for JAEE. In addition, in case it is difficult for the Editor to do a fair review for a particular article, he/she shall not take charge of its review.

3.2 Selection of Reviewers

The Editor must make a fair selection of an appropriate reviewer with expertise taken into consideration. No interested parties of the article may be selected as the reviewer. In order for the selected reviewer to fully satisfy the responsibility as set in Article 2, the Editor shall provide advice as needed, and monitor the process to its prompt completion. If it becomes difficult for the appointed reviewer to complete such task, the Editor shall make efforts such as requesting another reviewer to take over the review.

3.3 Confidentiality

The Editor must not disclose any information related to a review to a third party.

3.4 Handling Appeals

If the Editorial Committee receives an appeal from the author(s) of the article with an objection related to a review result, the validity of the appeal must be promptly evaluated. The evaluation results must be notified to the author(s) in the name of the Editorial Committee, and if the objection is justified, the Editorial Committee must take appropriate action.

3.5 Handling Articles That Do Not Satisfy Requirements

If it becomes questionable that a submitted article does not satisfy the requirements of the authors'

responsibility as set forth in Article 1, and the issue is not resolved, the Editorial Committee may reject the publication of the said article. In addition, if it becomes questionable that a published article did not satisfy the requirements of the authors' responsibility as set forth in Article 1, and the issue is not resolved, the Editorial Committee, after gaining approval of the Board, may withdraw the publication of the article or express concerns over the article.

Supplementary Rules

This provision shall be effective as of November 1, 2019.