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The *Biochemical Journal* publishes papers in English in all fields of biochemistry, provided that they make a sufficient contribution to biochemical knowledge. Papers may include new results obtained experimentally, descriptions of new experimental methods of biochemical importance, or new interpretations of existing results. Theoretical contributions will be considered equally with papers dealing with experimental work. All work presented should have as its aim the development of biochemical concepts rather than the mere recording of facts. Preliminary, confirmatory or inconclusive work will not be published.

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The paragraphs below are a summarized version of information provided in the Biochemical Society's *Policy of the Journal and Instructions to Authors* [*Biochem. J.* (1990) **265**, 1–21]. Copies are available free of charge from the Editorial Office.

The following types of submission are considered by the Editorial Board.

1. **Full-length Papers**
2. **Rapid Papers** (four printed pages maximum)
3. **Letters** (two printed pages maximum)
4. **Reviews** (usually solicited)

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Papers that can be accommodated in four pages of the journal will be treated as **Rapid Papers** if this is requested at the time of sub-

mission. They receive priority treatment and it is aimed for their publication to be within 3 months of receipt. However, the criteria of reviewing and the appearance of Rapid Papers in the journal are identical with those of Full-length Papers. In order to achieve the accelerated schedule, reviewers are asked to give priority to the paper and proofs of accepted Rapid Papers are not supplied to authors. In addition, Rapid Papers that do not contain half-tone figures may be submitted by FAX to the number below. In this case only one copy of the article is required, and acknowledgement of receipt and the review decision will be returned to the author by FAX. Refer to the current *Instructions to Authors* for details of this procedure. Rapid Papers must not exceed 4000 words, inclusive of title, synopsis and references; authors must also assess what proportion of a page will be occupied by insertions such as tables, figures and schemes and reduce the number of text words accordingly at the rate of 1200 words per full page of the journal.

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(xi)–(xiv) are the contents pages from parts 1, 2 and 3 respectively, and pages (xv) and (xvi) are the volume author index supplied in part 3 of each volume.

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