General policy
The Biochemical Journal publishes papers in English in all fields of biochemistry and molecular biology, provided that they make a sufficient contribution to knowledge in these fields. Papers may include new results obtained experimentally, descriptions of new experimental methods of biochemical importance, or new interpretations of existing results. Novel theoretical contributions will be considered, although these papers should also contain some experimental testing of the theory. 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 Preliminary, confirmatory or inconclusive work will not be published. The Biochemical Journal will not publish material that has been wholly or largely published elsewhere, even as a preliminary communication or in unrefereed symposium proceedings or on the World Wide Web (WWW); equally, fragmentation of research into the least publishable unit is discouraged.

Submission of a paper implies that it has been approved by all the named authors, that all persons entitled to authorship have been so named, that it reports unpublished work that is not under consideration elsewhere and that the paper is accepted for publication the authors will transfer to the Biochemical Society the copyright in the paper, which will then not be published elsewhere in the same form, in any language, without the consent of the Society. Authors will be required to sign an undertaking to these effects.

Authors may suggest potential reviewers for their papers, but the journal is under no obligation to follow such suggestions. Authors may also specify the names of those they wish to be excluded from the review process, and such wishes are usually granted in the opinion of the Editors. In the journal, such a request unreasonably excludes all the expertise available to it in that scientific area.

To allow the reviewers to assess possible overlap with previous work, all submitted papers must be accompanied by duplicate copies of the author’s relevant published work, including that on the WWW, and of all related papers in press or under editorial consideration in this or other journals. The following types of paper are included in the journal.

Research Papers
are the normal form of publication, and may be of any length that is justified by their content. However, because of pressure for space in the journal, no paper, whether its scientific merit justifies it or not, will exceed the minimum length required for precision in describing the experiments and clarity in interpreting them. As a guide, most Research Papers published in the Biochemical Journal are of between six and eight printed pages. A concise well-written paper tends to be published more rapidly.

Accelerated Publications (APs) are short (usually four printed pages) papers bringing particular novel or significant findings to the attention of the research community. It is intended that a decision on acceptance or rejection will be made within 10 working days of receipt, and publication of accepted APs in an issue will follow within 2 months. APs receive full but accelerated reviewing. The criteria of ‘novelty and significance’ are strictly enforced, and papers may be rejected solely on the grounds of lack of novelty and significance. APs are not a path to accelerated publication of sound but non-urgent material. Authors must include in their letter of preparation for the journal, authors should consult a current issue to make themselves familiar with the contents, layout of tables and figures and citation of references. A full page of text in the Biochemical Journal contains approximately 1200 words; when calculating the printed length of papers, allowance must be made for the space occupied by tables and figures and the number of text words reduced accordingly. The numerical system of references must be used. A reference to ‘unpublished work’ must be accompanied by the names of all persons concerned: a reference to ‘personal communication’ must be supported by written permission for the quotation from the person or persons concerned; both of these types of citation are permitted in the text only, not in the list of references.

Submit manuscripts online
Authors should submit manuscripts electronically using the Online Submission and Review System available at http://www.BiochemJ.org/submit/

Immediate Publications
Manuscripts are published online in PDF format as soon as they are accepted, unless on submission the author requests that this not be done. Immediate Publications are listed in and accessible through Medline, and are freely available to anyone with Internet access.

Opt2Pay
Choose to make your paper freely available. For more information see www.biochemj.org.

Queries and correspondence
Authors in the Americas should address all queries and correspondence about their submission to: Dr Charles A. Hendzel, Biochemsoc, 2000 Eye St, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20006, USA. Authors in China should contact: Dr Lin Huo, Institute of Biophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Room 5202, 15 Datun Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100101 (telephone +86 10 64888573; email editorial@biochemj.cn).

Authors in the U.K., the rest of Europe, Japan and the rest of the world should contact: The Publisher, Biochemical Journal, Portland Press Limited, Third Floor, Charles Darwin House, 12 Roger Street, London WC1N 2JL, U.K. (telephone +44 20 7685 2410; fax +44 20 7685 2469; email editorial@portlandpress.com).

Colour figures
Colour figures are published free of charge provided that the corresponding artwork on the published paper has been free of charge provided that the corresponding artwork on the published paper has been.

Multimedia adjuncts
The Biochemical Journal Online offers authors the opportunity to enhance their papers with multimedia adjuncts (e.g. time-lapse movies, three-dimensional structures, animated schemes). These will be submitted to peer review alongside the manuscript. To submit a paper with a multimedia adjunct, please attach the file when you submit your manuscript electronically. Preferred formats are QuickTime for time-lapse movies, PDB for structures and Flash for animated schemes. There is no extra charge associated with the publication of a multimedia adjunct online.

COPE
The Biochemical Journal is a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics and endorses its guidelines, which are available at http://publicationethics.org.uk

Microfiche and back issues
Volumes 102-408 of the Biochemical Journal are available on microfiche. Back issues are also available. Further details may be obtained from the address below.

Subscription Department
Portland Customer Services
P.O. Box 32, Commerce Way
Colchester CO2 8HP, Essex, U.K.
(tel 01206 796351; fax 01206 799331; email sales@portland-services.com)

Advertising
Enquiries about advertising should be addressed to marketing@portlandpress.com.

The paper and cover-boards used in this journal are sourced from sustainable, managed and renewed commercial forests, and are fully recyclable. The bleeding process used for the pulp is 100% ECF (elemental chlorine free).