

# *Trends in State Courts 2023* Author Guidelines

*Trends in State Courts* is a National Center for State Courts (NCSC) annual publication with the purpose of helping the courts anticipate and manage change to increase public accountability, trust, and confidence in the justice system. Articles are available as a volume and singly at the NCSC *Trends* website [www.ncsc.org/trends](http://www.ncsc.org/trends) in PDF format only.

The NCSC accepts submissions at [jholtzclaw@ncsc.org](mailto:jholtzclaw@ncsc.org). The 500-word abstract submission deadline is October 17, 2022 for the 2023 edition. Early submissions are welcomed and strongly encouraged.

**1. Articles Sought.** *Trends* articles profile state court changes, innovations, and developments as well as practical examples of how courts incorporate administrative and programmatic changes. Societal, legal, administrative, financial, structural, technological, demographic, or other impacts on state courts are all topics of interest to *Trends* readers. Articles should be original works that have not been previously published. Submissions of the same article to both *Trends* and another publication are not allowed.

**2. Readership.** State court judges and administrators are the primary *Trends* audience. Government officials, members of the bar, and academics also consult *Trends*.

**3. Peer Review.** Articles are screened through an anonymous peer review process. Articles are accepted or rejected based on the Review Board's recommendations, as well as on criteria determined by the editors. From time to time, the editors may solicit an article on a topic of interest. Such a request does not constitute a guarantee of publication; solicited articles are subject to the same peer review process as other articles.

Authors of submissions accepted for publication will receive an anonymous copy of reviewer comments and suggestions. Authors should consider reviewer feedback and make changes to article submissions, as appropriate.

**4. Length.** Articles should run from **1,500 to no more than 2,500 words**. Submit the article electronically in Microsoft Word format.

**5. Title.** The title should be ten words or less in length, and subtitles are discouraged. The working title may be altered by the editors as they deem appropriate.

**6. Trends Statement.** Include a *Trends* statement at the beginning of the article of two sentences and no more than 50 words total. The *Trends* statement is a short explanation or summary describing the change, innovation, or development highlighted in the article. It will not be included in the article's final word count.

**7. Deadline.** The article submission deadline is **January 31, 2023**. Earlier submissions are welcomed and strongly encouraged.

**8. Author Contact.** Include your name, title, organization, and contact information on a separate cover sheet.

**9. Style.** *Trends* is not a scholarly or legal publication in the strictest sense. Instead, the editors of *Trends* aim to provide clear and concise information. Therefore, *Trends* does not use formal citations and endnotes should be restricted to explanatory material, not lists of cited articles. A brief citation may be made in parentheses in the text if necessary (for example, to give credit for quoted material). *Trends* follows the *Chicago Manual of Style* when it comes to matters of capitalization and punctuation. Articles will be edited accordingly.

**10. Graphics.** Data should be provided for at least two graphics to accompany the submission. Suggestions for additional graphics, such as pictures, are welcome. If the graphic contains data, such as a chart or graph, include the original data from which the graphic was created, along with a sample of the graphic. When submitting pictures, provide the graphic in a high-resolution format, such as an .EPS, or .TIF file. If a .JPG is submitted, it must be generated at the highest resolution possible (minimum resolution of 300 dpi). *Trends* is a color publication.

**11. Editing.** All articles are subject to editing to conform to the *Trends* editorial style.

**12. Article Proofs.** Authors will have the opportunity to review one article proof. Minor variations in formatting and graphics may occur.

**13. Article Reprints.** Authors who wish to submit an article that is accepted for publication in *Trends* to another journal or publication may do so only with the express written permission of the *Trends* editors. If you wish to reprint an article after publication, please contact the editors for assistance.

**Editor Contacts.** Questions regarding *Trends* or its publication process should be directed to one of the editors listed below. The editors look forward to reading your contributions for the 2023 edition!

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Visit the *Trends* website at [www.ncsc.org/trends](http://www.ncsc.org/trends).