

JOURNAL QUALIFICATION PROCESS

FAE'S GUIDE TO CHOOSE A QUALITY JOURNAL

The following policies define which journals are acceptable as to meet the PRJ requirement in the Faculty Qualification process for SA and SP faculty.

1. BACKGROUND

The UPRRP-School of Business offers degrees at three academic levels (Ph.D., MBA, and Bachelors) and consequently has journal qualification policies that reflect the differences in these levels. Furthermore, faculty at UPRRP-SB often perform research of relevance primarily to LATAM audiences, and therefore prepare manuscripts in Spanish for submission to LATAM Journals (published in Spanish).

Six reference points used in the described policies are defined next.

- ABDC Journal Quality List: A list of journals developed by the Australian Business Deans Council (ABDC) in 2007. The 2013 list includes 2,767 different journal titles, divided into four categories of quality: A*:6.9%; A: 20.8%; B: 28.4%; and C: 43.9% journals. The ABDC reports indicates that journals deemed **NOT** to reach a **quality threshold level** are not included in the list. The next major review will be in the second half of 2017 and is likely to follow a similar process to the 2013 review with newly selected panels. In 2016, ABDC undertook an interim review, which had a narrow focus on: 1) new journals started since 1 January 2011; 2) removal of predatory open access journals; 3) change of Field of Research (FoR) grouping; and 4) incorrect factual details - to produce a revised 2016 list. The ABDC 2016 list interim review is already available (<http://www.abdc.edu.au/pages/abdc-journal-quality-list-2013.html>).
- ABS Academic Journal Quality Guide: A journal list developed by the Association of Business Schools, which is composed of the major business schools in the United Kingdom. The list is a combination of factors that include peer review, statistical information relating to citations, and editorial judgements. Journals are classified into five categories: grades 1 to 4, and 4* which indicates the top journals.
- Cabell Journal Directory: This directory provides information about journals which includes the topic areas covered, the type of review process, the acceptance rate, time required for review, availability of reviewers' comments, and if fees charged to review or publish the manuscript. It also provides journal ranking based on the subject area.

- Latindex – Catalog: Latindex is a journal database, which lists Ibero-american journals in most academic disciplines. The Catalogo “set” contains those journals that fulfill a series of international quality criteria including a peer review process, coverage in international databases, abstracts and keywords in more than one language, international editorial boards. Approximately 3,500 journals appear rated in the Catalogo.
- Journal h5 Index: It is the largest number h such that h articles published in the past 5 years have at least h citations each. Access the Journal h5 Index through a free software called *Publish or Perish* (<http://www.harzing.com/resources/publish-or-perish>).
- Research articles by Ruiz-Torres et al. (2012) and Olavarietta (2016). These two research articles ranked Ibero-american journals based on the opinion of experts (faculty members from Iberoamerica). The papers used different methodologies and assessed the quality of different journal sets.

2. JOURNAL QUALIFICATION PROCESS (PH.D. LEVEL)

The PhD program offers two disciplines: Finance and International Business (IB). Separate faculty groups primarily teach each area. Each of these two faculty groups must develop and approve a list of qualified journals of high quality and impact. The lists should include highly ranked journals in the ABDC and ABS lists as well as the *top* relevant journals in LATAM. Faculty members who want to modify a PhD journal list can petition the director of the Graduate School of Business (EGAE). The director of the EGAE will submit change requests to the faculty in the specific area for a decision. A majority of the faculty in the area must approve changes to a PhD. journal list.

3. JOURNAL QUALIFICATION PROCESS (MBA AND UNDERGRADUATE)

In line with the interdisciplinary characteristics of the faculty, general journal qualification policies are in effect (instead of area/field lists). Notice that while journals published in English typically focus on a subject area and publish only papers within that scope, the majority of LATAM journals are *generalist*, publishing articles in all areas of business (e.g. marketing, strategy, accounting, finance, operations, ethics...).

The aim of these policies is to promote research of high quality and impact while simultaneously considering the diversity of interests and methods. Given the importance of applied learning to a great number of the faculty and to the school in general, scholarly work focusing on innovative teaching and business practices is encouraged, as well as discipline-based publications.

3.1 Journals published in English

A journal qualifies if it meets any of the following characteristics:

1. Listed in the ABS 2015 list (or latest revision):
(https://harzing.com/download/jql_20180403_title.pdf)
2. Listed in the latest ABDC list available at the moment of selection:
<https://tinyurl.com/abdcsearchbar>
3. Appears in the Cabell directory (<https://www2.cabells.com/journals>) and either:
 - a) has an acceptance rate of 25% or less
 - b) has a rank: Cabell's Classification Index (CCI©)

Rationale: All journals included in the ABS and ABDC lists meet basic quality standards. All journals listed in the ABS and ABDC undergo significant scrutiny by the organizations making the lists, are refereed, cited in databases, and have international editorial boards. The Cabell directory may include journals that do not appear in the ABDC or ABS lists, however to guarantee impact and quality, the journal must be either ranked or have a relatively low acceptance rate.

According to Cabell, any journal ranked by the CCI© is considered to exhibit a relatively high level of influence. There are three influence classifications (similar to the A,B and C classification of the other ranking lists) that approximate the top 10% (Premier ~ A), 11-20% (Significant ~ B), and >20% (High ~ C).

3.2 Journals published in Spanish/Portuguese

Journals qualify if they have as a subject area one or more business and related fields of interest and meet any of the following characteristics:

1. Listed in Latindex-**Catálogo** (<http://www.latindex.org/latindex/Solar/Busqueda>) and has an h5-index¹ of four (4) or more. This represents 35% of a study conducted in October 2016 (see Rationale below)
2. Ranked in the top 25 in the study by Ruiz-Torres et al. (2012). This represents 45% of the journals assessed in this study (**See Appendix 1**).
3. Ranked in the top 15 in the study by Olavarrieta (2016). This represents 36% of the total journals assessed in this study (**See Appendix 2**).

¹ Defined as the h-index for the 5-year period before the article is submitted for evaluation by the journal. The program can be downloaded here: <https://harzing.com/resources/publish-or-perish>.

Rationale: An analysis of 117 unique journals from LATAM listed in the Latindex-Catalogo (sub-areas of Management, Finance, Economics, and Accounting) was conducted (study conducted October of 2016). For each of these journals the h-5 index (2011-2015) was obtained. The average h5 index was 3.35. Figure 1 provides the percentage of journals by h5 index ranges. The majority of journals (66%) have h5 indexes of 3 or less (representing 77 journals) while only 8% have h5 indexes of 10 or more. An h5 index of 4 is selected as the cutoff point as to keep a reasonable set of options (given 40 out of the 117 journals (34%) analyzed qualify).

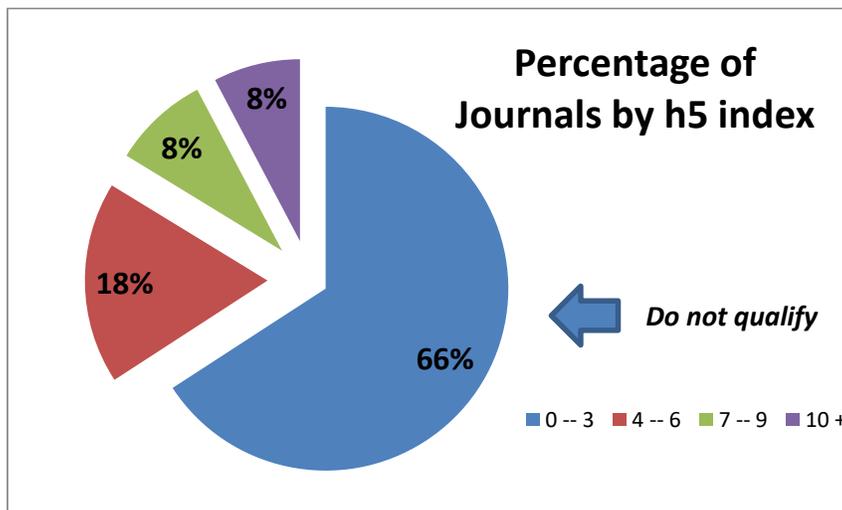


Figure 1. Percentage of journals per h5 index values.

It is noted that as h5 indexes change, the journals from LATAM that qualify will also change. Furthermore, journals in related areas that appear in Latindex Catalogo with h5 indexes of 4 or more would qualify.

4. EXCEPTIONS AND FACULTY REQUESTS

To concede exceptions to any of these policies requires approval on a per article basis. Faculty should make a written request to their department director, including the justification for the selected journal and its relevance to the research focus or discipline. The department chair and the Dean would make determinations on these requests. No exceptions will be granted for

journals considered predatory/ unethical as described in Section 5. A maximum of 10% of the five (5) year period journal publications should fall within this category.

5. WHERE NOT TO PUBLISH

The importance of publications in the academic world has led to the growth of predatory publishers. These organizations typically offer rapid publications, have low standards/ quality and charge significant fees for publication. These publishers typically report false impact factors and indexing. Articles that appear on journals published by the organizations will not be counted towards the SA/SP qualification.

Furthermore, the importance of citations has led to the practice of journal self-citations (journals encourage authors to cite multiple past articles from the same journal). This practice artificially inflates a journal's citation and does not represent a quality journal. Thomson Reuters, who is one of the flagship organizations in regards to citation reports, provides a list of journals that have been "tagged" for excessive self-citations

For more information, use the following resources to avoid publishing in predatory journals:

1. *Cabell's Black List* (available from any computer in the school):
<http://www2.cabells.com/blacklist>
2. *Cabell's list of journals under review* for the blacklist:
<http://www2.cabells.com/assets/docs/Journals%20Under%20Blacklist%20Review.xlsx>
3. *Beall's list of predatory publishers*: <https://beallslist.weebly.com/>
4. Thomson Reuters list of journals "tagged" for excessive self-citations
<http://help.incites.clarivate.com/incitesLiveJCR/JCRGroup/titleSuppressions.html>
http://ipscience-help.thomsonreuters.com/incitesLiveJCR/8687-TRS/version/4/part/8/data/Suppressed%20titles%202016-2007.xlsx?branch=incites_115&language=en_US

6. REVISION TO THIS DOCUMENT

Every three years the Accreditation Office revises this document, its policies and procedures.

7. REFERENCES

- Olavarrieta Soto, S. (2016). Using expert judgments to rank 45 latin american business journals. *RAE-Revista de Administração de Empresas*, 56(3), 302-314.
- Ruiz-Torres, A., Penkova, S., & Rodríguez, C. V. (2012). Evaluación y clasificación de revistas arbitradas en el área de administración de empresas publicadas en español. *Academia. Revista Latinoamericana de Administración*, (51), 48-64.

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Appendix 1

Source: <http://www.redalyc.org/articulo.oa?id=71625040005>

Rank	Journal	ISSN
1	Innovar. Revista de Ciencias Administrativas y Sociales	0121-5051
2	Cuadernos de Economía y Dirección de la Empresa	1138-5758
3	Revista Europea de Dirección y Economía de la Empresa	1019-6838
4	Cuadernos de Administracin (Pontificia U. Javeriana)	0120-3592/ 1900-7205
5	Academia- Revista Latinoamericana de Administracin	1012-8255
6	Universia Business Review	1698-5117
7	Esic-Market	0212-1867
8	Revista Española de Investigación de Marketing ESIC	1138-1442
9	Revista Venezolana de Gerencia	1315-9984
10	Investigaciones Europeas de Dirección y Economía de la Empresa	1135-2523
11	Estudios Gerenciales	0123-5923
12	Contaduría y Administración	0186-1042/2448-8410
13	Journal of Economics, Finance & Administrative Science	2077-1886
14	Cuadernos de Administración (U. Del Valle)	0120-4645
15	Revista de Economía y Empresa	0213-2834
16	Visión Gerencial	2477-9547/1317-8822
17	Investigación y Marketing	1131-6144
18	Cuadernos de Ciencias Económicas y Empresariales	0211-4356
19	Cuadernos de Gestión	1988-2157/1131-6837
20	Dirección y Organización	1132-175X
21	Cuadernos de Estudios Empresariales	1988-2610/1131-6985
22	Revista BCV	0005-4720
23	Gestión y Estrategia	1606-8459/0188-8234
24	Ciencias Económicas	
25	Pensamiento & Gestión	1657-6276

Appendix 2

Source: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/S0034-759020160304>

Journal	ISSN
Academia Revista Latinoamericana de Administración	1012-8255
RAE-Revista de Administração de Empresas	2178-938X
Innovar-Journal of Administrative Sciences	0121-5051
BAR-Brazilian Administration Review	1807-7692
Trimestre Económico	0041-3011/ 2448-718X
Revista de Administração Contemporânea	1415-6555/1982-7849
Journal of Economics, Finance and Administrative Sciences	2077-1886
Latin American Business Review	1097-8526
INCAE Business Review	1659-2549
Revista de Administração Pública	0034-7612/1982-3134
Cuadernos de Administración	0120-4645
Contaduría y Administración	0186-1042/2448-8410
Revista de Administração Mackenzie	1678-6971/1518-6776
Estudios Gerenciales	0123-5923
Revista Venezolana de Gerencia	1315-9984
Revista Brasileira de Finanças	1679-0731/1984-5146

