

CYBERSECURITY SKILLS JOURNAL



Publishing and Peer Reviewing at CSJ

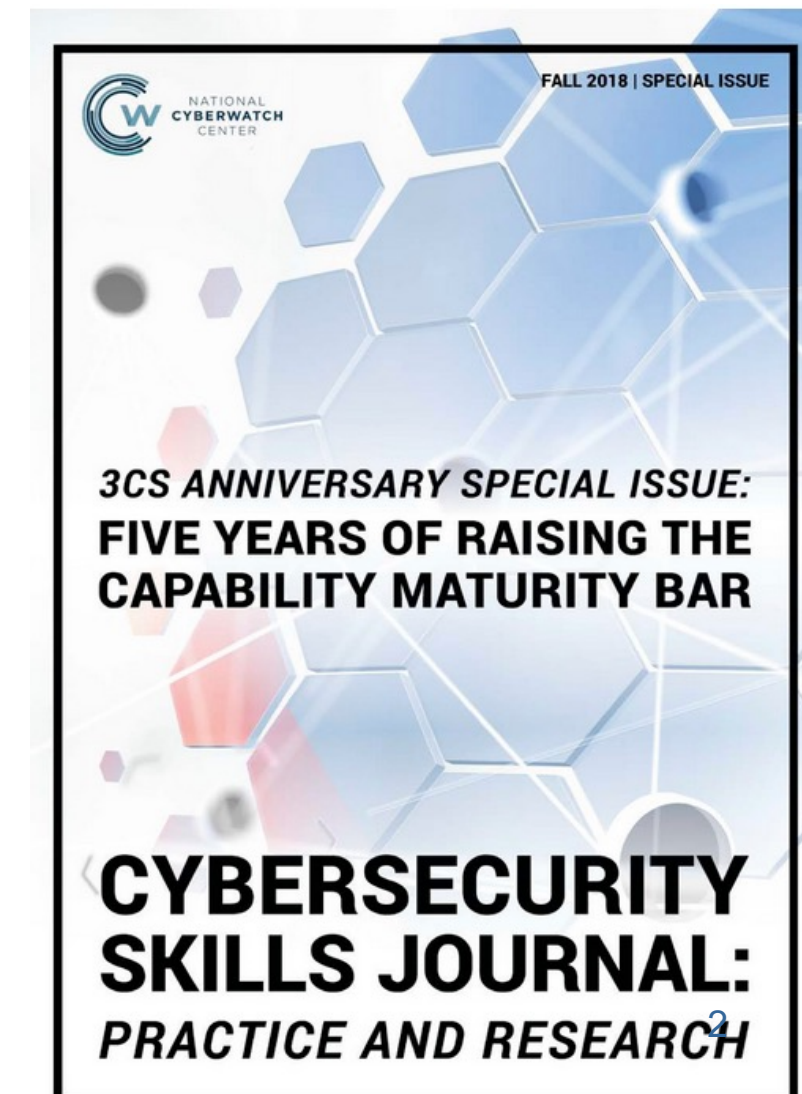
[View our open Call for Proposals](#)

Cybersecurity Skills Journal (CSJ) Mission

Seeks to integrate and expand the methods, processes, and evidence of effective practices for skillful performance of cybersecurity job functions and roles

- Advance worker, researcher, or instructor capabilities to raise the cybersecurity capability maturity of the nation's workforce
- Analyze, evaluate, improve, and measure techniques, tactics and procedures (TTPs) including –but not limited to– the use of technologies
- Design and deployment of instructional systems that raise capability maturity

Note: CSJ does not accept submissions about technical solutions that lack a substantive contribution for improving or teaching skilled performance



Types of Manuscripts Published by CSJ

Dialogues. Captures a discussion among stakeholders about dilemmas or previously insurmountable challenges to cybersecurity skills assessment, development, recruitment, or evaluation

Notes. Explore uncharted territory, rather than seeking to confirm or disconfirm the results of prior literature as is done in an article
(1,000 - 2,500 words)

Articles. Support replication, validation, and generalization of practice, systematic investigation, or instructional methods and results
(7,500 - 15,000 words)

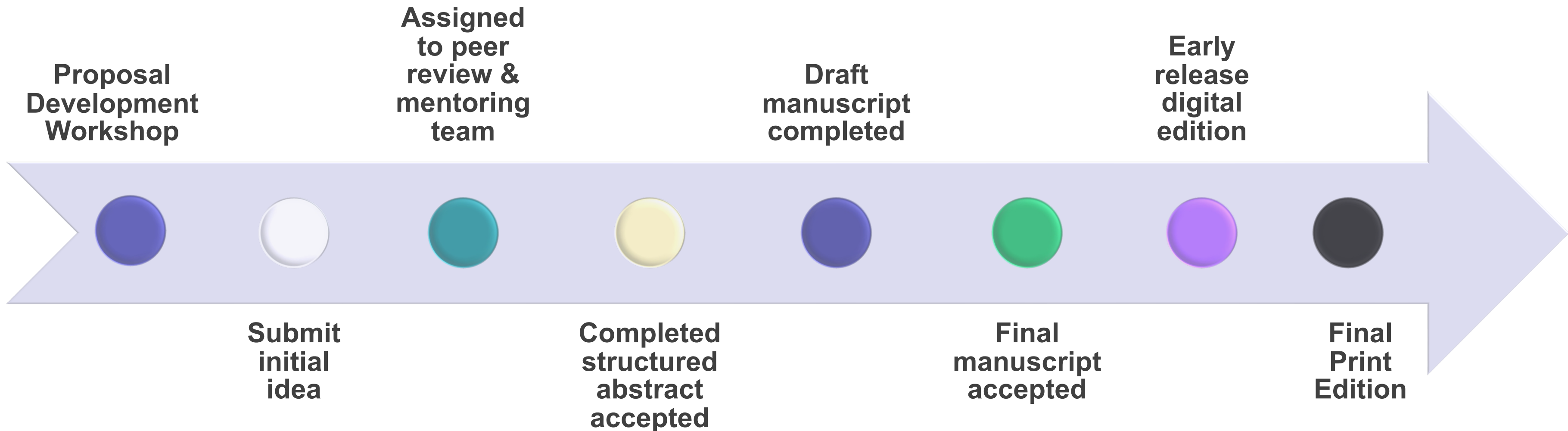
Peer review is required for Notes and Articles, but not for Dialogues

CSJ's Iterative Process



- Our goal is to find a way to say yes to ideas
- Collegial, constructive feedback from large team of peer reviewers
- Building capability in practitioners, researchers, educators and students:
 - ✓ Designing and conducting evidence-based investigations
 - ✓ Effective written communication of ideas, findings
 - ✓ Reviewing and providing constructive written feedback

Path from proposal to publication



This path typically takes several months to complete, and is highly dependent on how rapidly authors submit the next version of their manuscript

Proposing your idea to *CSJ*

CSJ does not ask for a completed paper, or draft, or even an outline.

The initial submission for every type of manuscript requires 3 parts designed to help you explain your idea:



Describing the Problem

Problem: What is the specific **primary problem** being addressed?

- Why is this an urgent and/or severe problem?
- Who is this problem impacting: practitioners (what work roles?), researchers or educators?
- How is this problem impacting them?
- When did this become a problem?
- How is this problem related to improving workforce capability?

Note: The “cybersecurity workforce shortage” is not a sufficiently scoped problem



Problem

Research
Question

Contribution

Defining your research questions

Research question. What “discoveries” might help address the problem? What are 1–3 “how” or “why” type questions related to the problem being explored?

- Are there questions that have not been fully and completely answered by prior systematic investigations of the problem?
- Why are practitioners or prior systematic investigations lacking an understanding of the problem or issue discussed?
- What information needed to address the problem is missing or unknown?

Note: Research questions require more detailed answers than Yes, No or 42.



Identify your contribution

Contribution to the conversation. What is the contribution of this investigation to a current conversation in the literature? How does this idea relate to other current work that addresses this problem?

Conversation = recent published articles, conference presentations, etc.

- Describe the conversation: identify 2-3 conversants (cited articles), and what they're talking about
- Describe how the investigation adapts, extends or modifies the contributions of others



Problem

**Research
Question**

Contribution

Reviewer

- Provides honest but collegial evaluation in blind review of initial submission
- If idea accepted for further development, provide collaborative and iterative feedback to author(s) from initial abstract to completed manuscript

Lead reviewer

- Facilitates initial blind review and decision (accept / not accept) by a review panel, organizes meta-review content to be shared with author(s)
- Coordinates collaboration between author(s) and the review panel in the interest of creating the best possible manuscripts for readers
- Ensures regular participation by review panel members throughout the process; notifies Section Chair if a reviewer consistently unable to participate or is not responsive
- Coordinates submission's progress with the Editorial Board

- Join our [Diversifying the Cybersecurity Workforce](#) LinkedIn Group
- Questions about the Journal?
 - Interested in becoming an Editorial Board member or Peer Reviewer?
 - Have an idea for a future Special Issue topic?

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