

# JOSS Submission Checklist for X12-837-Fake-Data-Generator

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## Pre-Submission Requirements

### Repository Requirements

- **Add LICENSE file** to repository root
- **Update README.md** with proper documentation
  - Installation instructions
  - Usage examples
  - API documentation
  - Citation information
- **Add CONTRIBUTING.md** (optional but recommended)
  - Guidelines for contributing to the project
  - Code of conduct
  - How to report issues
- **Create GitHub release/tag**

### Code Quality

- **Code is well-documented**
  - Inline comments explaining logic
  - Docstrings for all public functions
  - Clear module structure
- **Tests exist** (JOSS requires some tests)
  - Add unit tests (even basic ones)
  - Add to repository in `tests/` directory
  - Suggested: Test segment generation, parsing accuracy
- **Dependencies documented**
  - `requirements.txt` exists
  - Python version specified (add to README)
  - Recommended: Add `setup.py` or `pyproject.toml`

### Zenodo Archive

- **Create Zenodo DOI** for software

### ORCID ID

- **Update paper.md with your ORCID ID**

## Paper Completeness

- **Review paper.md**
  - Summary section complete
  - Statement of need articulated
  - Installation instructions clear
  - Usage examples provided
  - References properly formatted
  - Update any placeholder text
  - Add figures (optional but helpful)
- **References in paper.bib**
  - All cited works included
  - Verify DOIs are correct
  - Add any missing citations

## Optional Enhancements

- **Add figures to paper**
  - Architecture diagram showing Generator + Parser flow
  - Screenshot of web interface
  - Example 837 file snippet with annotations
  - Save as **figure1.png**, etc. in **manuscripts/figures/**
- **Add automated tests**
  - GitHub Actions CI/CD
  - Automated testing on push
  - Increases reviewer confidence
- **Add code of conduct**
  - Use Contributor Covenant: <https://www.contributor-covenant.org/>
- **Add CITATION.cff file**
  - Citation File Format for easy citing
  - GitHub will automatically display citation info

## Submission Process

### 1. Prepare Repository

```
# Ensure repository is clean and up to date
git status
git add .
git commit -m "Prepare for JOSS submission"
```

```
git push origin main

# Create release tag
git tag -a v1.0.0 -m "Version 1.0.0 - Initial JOSS submission"
git push origin v1.0.0
```

## 2. Create Zenodo Archive

1. Go to <https://zenodo.org/>
2. Log in with GitHub account
3. Enable repository: <https://zenodo.org/account/settings/github/>
4. Create new GitHub release → automatically triggers Zenodo archive
5. Get DOI badge and add to README

## 3. Submit to JOSS

1. Visit: <https://joss.theoj.org/papers/new>
2. Provide GitHub repository URL
3. Wait for editor assignment
4. Reviewers will be assigned
5. Address reviewer comments
6. Upon acceptance, paper will be published

## 4. During Review

Be prepared to address:

- Code quality improvements
- Documentation clarifications
- Test coverage additions
- Functionality questions
- Comparison to similar tools

Typical review timeline: 2-8 weeks

## Post-Submission Updates

After paper acceptance:

- Add JOSS badge to README

```
[ ! [DOI]
(https://joss.theoj.org/papers/10.21105/joss.XXXXXX/status.svg)
(https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.XXXXXX)
```

- Update documentation with citation

- Announce publication (Twitter, LinkedIn, institutional news)
- Consider submitting to conferences (AMIA, HIMSS, etc.)

## Resources

- **JOSS Submission Guidelines:** <https://joss.readthedocs.io/en/latest/submitting.html>
- **JOSS Review Criteria:** [https://joss.readthedocs.io/en/latest/review\\_criteria.html](https://joss.readthedocs.io/en/latest/review_criteria.html)
- **Example JOSS Papers:** See [manuscripts/01/examples/](#) for references
- **Markdown Format:** Paper must be in markdown (.md) format
- **Bibliography:** BibTeX format (.bib) required

## Quick Wins for Strong Submission

1. **Add LICENSE file** (5 minutes) ★ REQUIRED
2. **Update ORCID in paper.md** (2 minutes) ★ REQUIRED
3. **Create Zenodo DOI** (10 minutes) ★ REQUIRED
4. **Add basic unit tests** (30 minutes) - Greatly improves credibility
5. **Add architecture diagram** (20 minutes) - Visual aids help reviewers
6. **Proofread paper.md** (15 minutes) - Catch typos and clarity issues

## Estimated Timeline

- **Pre-submission prep:** 2-4 hours (first-time), 1 hour (with checklist)
- **Review process:** 2-8 weeks
- **Revisions:** 1-3 rounds, 1-2 hours each
- **Total time to publication:** 1-3 months

## Questions?

- JOSS Editor Support: <https://joss.theoj.org/about#contact>
- JOSS Gitter Chat: <https://gitter.im/openjournals/joss>
- GitHub Issues: <https://github.com/openjournals/joss/issues>

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## Ready to Submit?

Once all required items (marked with ★) are complete, you're ready to submit to JOSS!

Good luck with your submission! 