

1. Product Overview

This platform enables **any user** to submit an article in PDF format without logging in, while maintaining a **controlled editorial and publishing workflow** through Admin and Editor roles.

Users can read limited article content without login, but **full access and downloads require authentication**.

The system ensures content quality through structured review, correction, and approval processes.

2. Key Objectives

- Allow **open article submission (no login required)**
 - Collect mandatory metadata for accountability
 - Implement Admin–Editor review workflow
 - Restrict full article access to logged-in users
 - Protect downloaded PDFs with watermarking
 - Maintain professional editorial standards
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3. Article Submission (No Login Required)

3.1 Submission Access

- Any visitor can submit an article **without creating an account**
 - Article must be uploaded in **PDF format only**
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3.2 Submission Fields

Mandatory Fields

- Author Full Name
- Author Email Address
- Article Title
- Article Category / Subject
- Article Abstract / Short Description
- Article PDF Upload

Non-Mandatory Fields

- Author Organization / Institution
- Author Phone Number
- Keywords / Tags
- Co-Author Details
- Remarks / Notes to Editor

3.3 Post-Submission Behavior

- Article status: **Submitted / Pending Admin Review**
- Confirmation email sent to author
- Author email is used for:
 - Correction communication
 - Status updates

4. User Roles & Permissions

4.1 Guest User

- Can submit articles (PDF/docx)
 - Can read **limited article preview**
 - Cannot read full articles
 - Cannot download PDFs
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4.2 Registered User

- Account created using email verification
 - Can log in after verification
 - Can:
 - Read full articles
 - Download PDFs (with watermark)
 - Track previously submitted articles using registered email
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4.3 Editor

- Created only by Admin
- Email verification required
- Can:
 - Review assigned articles
 - Approve articles
 - Request corrections with comments
 - Edit and upload corrected articles (if required)

4.4 Admin

- Full system access
- Can:
 - Create and manage Editors
 - Assign articles to Editors
 - Monitor article status
 - Override editorial decisions if necessary

5. Editorial Workflow

Step 1: Article Submission (Guest)

- Article submitted with mandatory fields
- Stored securely
- Status: **Pending Admin Review**

Step 2: Admin Assignment

- Admin reviews submission
- Assigns article to Editor
- Status: **Assigned to Editor**

Step 3: Editor Review

Option A: Approve

- Article approved and published
- Status: **Approved & Published**

Option B: Request Corrections

- Editor adds correction comments
- Correction email sent to author
- Status: **Corrections Required**

Option C: Editor Makes Corrections

- Editor edits and uploads final PDF
 - Article proceeds to approval
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Step 4: Re-Submission

- Author receives correction email
 - Uploads revised PDF via secure link
 - Editor performs final review
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6. Article Access & Visibility

6.1 Reading Rules

- Non-logged-in users:
 - Can read limited preview/abstract
 - Logged-in users:
 - Can read complete article content
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6.2 PDF Download Rules

- Only logged-in users can download
- Downloaded PDF must contain footer:

“Downloaded from [Platform Name]”

7. Authentication & Email Flow

7.1 User Account Creation

- Email-based registration
 - Email verification required before login
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7.2 Editor Account Creation

- Admin creates editor account
- Email sent:

“You have been created as an Editor. Please verify your email to activate your account.”

8. File Rules & Validation

- Only PDF format allowed
- File size limits (configurable)
- Virus and integrity checks

- Version history maintained for corrections
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9. Project Status (Current Progress)

Completed (UI)

- Home Page UI
 - Create Account Page UI
 - Login Page UI
 - Submit Article Page UI
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Pending / To Be Completed

- Backend APIs (Node.js)
 - Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)
 - Admin Dashboard
 - Editor Dashboard
 - Article Assignment System
 - Correction & Commenting System
 - Email Notifications
 - PDF Watermarking on Download
 - Authentication & Email Verification
 - Article Preview & Access Control
 - Audit Logs & Security Enhancements
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10. Non-Functional Requirements

- Secure data storage
 - Scalable backend
 - Email delivery reliability
 - Responsive UI
 - Clear status tracking for all submissions
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11. Success Criteria

- Smooth article submission without login
- Clear editorial communication
- Secure access to premium content
- High-quality published articles
- Minimal manual intervention by Admin