

IEEE Prohibited Authors List Database

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Prohibited Authors List?

The Prohibited Authors List (PAL) Database contains the names of authors who have been banned from submitting manuscripts to some or all IEEE publications due to a finding of publishing misconduct following a careful and considered review of a complaint by an ad hoc committee of subject expert volunteers,. The Database provides information about the length of the author's ban, and the affiliation of the banned author.

2. Who maintains this Database?

The PAL Database is maintained by the IEEE IPR Office staff based on Society rulings on cases of author misconduct. Questions or concerns related to the content of the PAL should be directed to the IPR Office.

3. How should IEEE editors use the PAL Database?

Editors should compare the names of authors who have submitted manuscripts to the publication with the PAL Database in order to determine if any authors have been prohibited.

4. Who can use the PAL Database?

The PAL Database can be used by any IEEE volunteer or staff member responsible for an IEEE publication (book, journal, magazine, conference proceedings, etc).

5. Can publication volunteers be given access to the PAL Database?

Yes. To add a volunteer or staff member, please contact the IPR Office.

6. What should be done when a paper is received from an author on the PAL?

The IPR Office should be contacted first to verify the identity of the author. Once the identity has been confirmed, the author should be informed that his/her paper has been rejected because he/she has been banned for publication misconduct. The paper may be resubmitted after the ban has expired. If the author has any questions about the PAL, please have him/her contact the IPR Office.

7. Is it OK to publish a paper by a prohibited author if it is already in review?

No. The ban includes the rejection and return of papers in review for a publication. The author may resubmit the paper after the ban has expired.

8. What should be done if a prohibited author is subsequently found on a coauthored paper?

The paper must be rejected and returned. The prohibited author, as well as the coauthors, should be informed of the reason for the paper's rejection.

9. If an author has been prohibited from publishing in only one Society's publications, is it OK for an editor of a different Society's publication to accept the paper?

If the prohibition is specific to one Society's publications, then it is optional for an editor of a different Society's publication to reject the paper. Additional information about the author's prohibition can be provided by the IPR Office to help the editor make his/her determination.

For any other questions, or for additional information, please contact the IEEE IPR Office.

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