

## JF Appeals Process

This document details the process and rules governing all appeals associated with submissions to the *Journal of Finance*. Our goal is to resolve appeals efficiently and in a manner that gives both authors and referees the opportunity to express their views. Please read this document in its entirety before beginning the process of an appeal.

1. **Justification for an Appeal:** This appeal process is designed to address errors that you feel the referees or editor made in evaluating the substantive contributions of your paper. Appeals based on subjective judgments, such as the importance of your contribution to the literature, will not be considered.
2. **Appeal Submission Period:** Authors must wait at least one month but no more than three months to submit an appeal. This period helps mitigate emotionally motivated appeals, and gives the authors time to weigh the initial reviewer and editorial feedback. It also enables editors and referees to consider the appeal with greater distance from their initial impressions.
3. **Appeal Process:**
  - a. **Author Tasks:** To initiate an appeal, go to the online submission section of the JF web page and initiate a submission. In Step 2, indicate that your submission is an appeal using the "Specify Type of Submission" pull-down menu. Appeals sent directly to an editor will not be considered. This ensures that all appeals are treated equally.
  - b. **Editorial Tasks:** The editor responsible for the initial submission of the paper will handle your appeal. Upon receipt, the editor will read over the file and your accompanying reasons for appealing, and will reach one of the following two decisions:
    - i. **Editorial Denial:** The editor denies the appeal and rejects the paper without further review. This option will be exercised when the editor sees no justification for the appeal or no future path to publication.
    - ii. **Further Review:** The editor sends the appeal to the referee(s) of the initial submission and one or more additional advisory referees who were not previously involved in the review. Based on their responses, the editor will decide whether the appeal is successful or not. If successful, the paper will continue in the review process, with the usual possibilities of acceptance/rejection.
  - c. Regardless of which option the editor chooses, all editorial decisions are final. There will be no further consideration by other editors of the JF.
4. **Appeal Fee:** The fee for an appeal is \$500. This fee will be fully refunded for successful appeals regardless of the eventual editorial decision on your paper. This fee will not be refunded for unsuccessful appeals, regardless of whether the appeal process proceeds according 3.b(i) or 3.b(ii).
5. **Appeal Limits:** Any author of a paper involved in an unsuccessful appeal is prevented from appealing any future editorial decisions at the JF for three (3) years from the date of the appeal decision.