In step with other leading psychology journals, Applied Cognitive Psychology will now consider applications for Registered Reports (RRs). RRs require researchers to submit to the journal a precise research plan, including the rationale, method, hypotheses, and method of analysis. Such submissions will be reviewed in the same way and to the same standard as conventional journal articles. If the submission wins approval from the journal’s editors, this will ensure publication of both the plan and, later, the completed research in ACP, provided that the plan has been adhered to. Traditional papers submitted to ACP that do not involve preregistration will continue to be welcomed and reviewed in the usual way.

The aim of preregistration is to increase the proportion of rigorous, reliable, and credible research conducted within our discipline. By declaring an explicit plan prior to the conduct of the research, RR aims to eliminate the possibility of submitting only selected findings, changing hypotheses in the light of results and other forms of data manipulation that detract from the rigour of our science. It also has advantages for researchers, particularly those at the start of their careers, who can benefit from critical input at the formulation stage of the work and be assured of in-principle publication, driven by the quality and importance of the research, rather than the outcome. The process of registration and the necessary steps are set out in detail on the ACP website: www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/acp. The aim of including RRs, alongside traditional papers, is to improve the replicability and representativeness of findings, while still encouraging the exploratory research, which has been the traditional content of our journal.

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