

Email Templates Guide

Updated March 2025



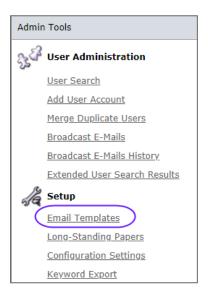
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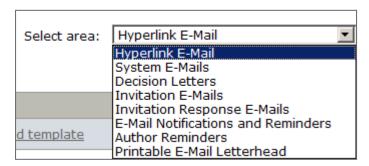


INTRODUCTION

All sites are created with a basic set of e-mail templates. When a site is assigned to a journal, the administrator of the site usually modifies the e-mail templates to the needs of the journal. This guide is intended to give you an overview of the basic navigation of the e-mail templates as well as suggestions for editing your templates.



To access the e-mail templates of your site, you must have Administration rights. The e-mail templates are located in the **Admin Tools** section under **Setup**.





TYPES OF E-MAIL TEMPLATES

When looking at the list of e-mail templates it can be very confusing as to where to start. We have devised an order of study to assist you with your templates. The order in which to go through e-mail templates is:

- 1. E-Mail Notifications and Reminders
- 2. Invitation E-Mails
- 3. Invitation Response E-Mails
- 4. Decision Letters
- 5. Author Reminders
- 6. System E-Mails
- 7. Hyperlink E-mail
- 8. Printable E-Mail Letterhead
 - Items 1-5 follow the basic peer review process of a site.
 - Items 6 and 7 are additional types of e-mail templates.
 - Item 8 is an additional feature that can be used in conjunction with your e-mail templates.

E-MAIL NOTIFICATIONS AND REMINDERS

These templates are linked to tasks within the peer review process. They facilitate communications between Admin, Editors, and Reviewers; to notify someone if they have a task that is pending or overdue. Typically these notifications are automated but can be customized and adjusted as needed.

Each workflow in the site has its own set of e-mail templates.

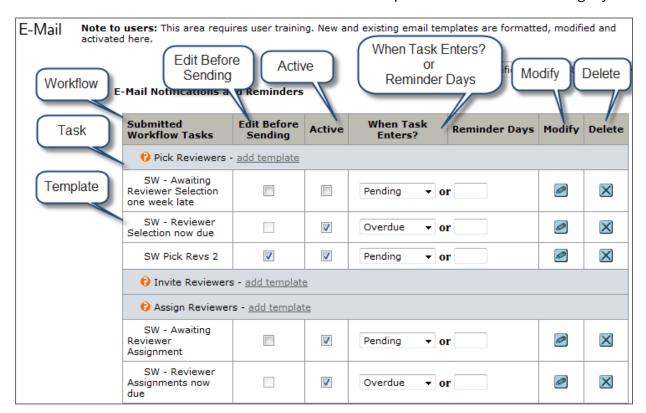
- Submitted Workflow Tasks (SW)
- Resubmitted Workflow Tasks (RSW)



- Revised Workflow Tasks (RW)
- Appealed Workflow Tasks
- Accept Workflow Tasks
- Invited Workflow Tasks (IW)

Note: Some sites do not contain the Resubmitted or Appealed Workflow.

Each section of **E-mail Notifications and Reminders** templates contains the following layout:





SCREEN COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION
Workflow	The name of the workflow.
Task	The name of the task within the workflow.
Template	The e-mail templates associated with the task.
Edit Before Sending	If checked, the e-mail may be edited before being sent. Allows customization if needed.
Active	If checked, the template is used. Unchecked templates are not used.
When Task Enters?	This is a trigger to when an e-mail is sent. Select from a list of statuses. When the manuscript enters the selected status, it is sent. Use either this field or Reminder Days. (See below for details.)
Reminder Days	This is a trigger to when an e-mail is sent. Enter the number of days before or after the manuscript enters that status for the e-mail to be sent. Use either this field or When Task Enters? (See below for details.)
Modify	Click the Modify button to edit the template.
Delete	Click the Delete button to delete the template. It is not recommended to delete templates. Instead, simply uncheck the Active checkbox if you do not want to use a specific e-mail template.
	If you Delete an e-mail template and decide you need it later, you will have to create a brand new template.

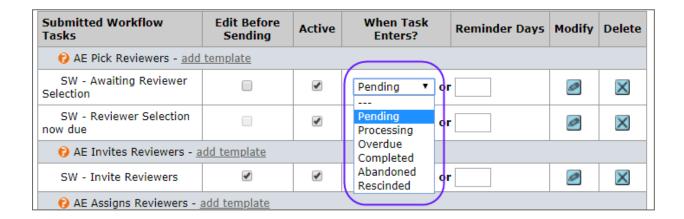
When Task Enters?

The When Task Enters? section contains a dropdown of the following:

• **Pending**: Has entered the task, but is not completed (e.g., pending Admin Checklist)



- **Processing:** Has been started, but is not completed (e.g., 2 reviews agreed, none submitted)
- **Overdue:** A task is in an overdue status when the number of days given to the task has expired
- **Completed**: The Task has been completed (e.g., reviewer has submitted review)
- **Abandoned:** Still open when decision is made (e.g., reviewer has agreed to review but has not completed the review when the EIC makes decision)
- **Rescinded:** Moving a manuscript back one step (e.g., rescind review or decision)
- **Closing:** When the task is still open and a decision has been made before the task is completed. (e.g., when the option "allow reviewer to submit a scoresheet after a decision is made", the status Reviewer Score task is "Closing")



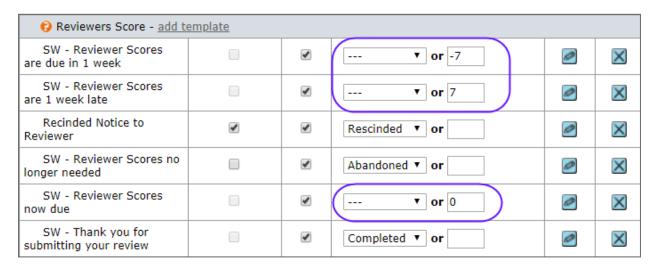


Reminder Days

An example of E-mail Notifications and Reminders is the reminders for Reviewers, listed under the Task of **Reviewers Score**.

In this section you will often see 2 or more reminders set at a numeric value. Sites are configured with a number of days that a reviewer has to complete their review.

- 7 means the e-mail will automatically be sent 7 days **after** the task is due
- -7 means the e-mail will automatically be sent 7 days **before** the task is due
- 0 means the e-mail will automatically go out on the day it becomes overdue



Note: The **When Task Enters?** section must be set at "---" if you are using a number in the Reminder Days column.

Tip: This is a great section to add additional e-mail templates if Reviewers need more reminding to complete reviews in a timely fashion.



INVITATION E-MAILS

These templates are typically the invitation to reviewers.

Required for Event? must be checked in order for the invitation task to take place. This means that you must send an invitation e-mail in order for the system to move the process forward to the invited stage. If you do not select **Required for Event?**, no e-mail would be sent to the reviewer to alert them to the invitation, however the system would show them reviewer as having been "Invited".

Multiple templates can be created if special types of invitations are needed for a site. These extra invitations could be based upon Manuscript Type, or when a special person is being asked to review and a more formal letter is needed.

Submitted Workflow Tasks	Edit Before Sending	Active	Required for Event?	Modify	Delete	
req () (Task: AE Invites Reviewers) AE Invites Reviewers - add template						
Editor Invitation to Reviewer	•	•			×	
Special Invite	✓	•			×	

The invitation e-mails will be preloaded with e-mail tags that will pull in document information as well as a tag that will create automatic response links for the reviewer to quickly respond to the invitation.

Types of tags you will find preloaded are:

##DOCUMENT_TITLE##

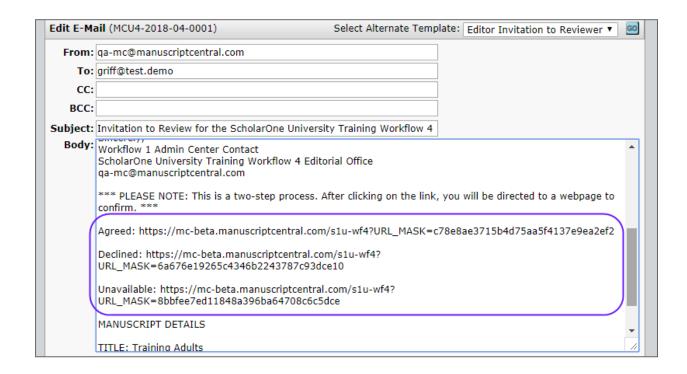
##DOCUMENT_AUTHORS## - (unless the site is double blinded)

##DOCUMENT_ABSTRACT##

##DOCUMENT_ID##

##INVITE_RESPONSES## - This tag will create links for Agreed, Decline, or Unavailable (see example below of how the links will look in an e-mail.)





Note: The links are unique to each reviewer who receives an invitation. Do not copy and paste links from one reviewer invitation to another.

INVITATION RESPONSE E-MAILS

These templates are triggered when a response is received from a reviewer. As with Invitation e-mails, **Required for Event?** must be checked in order for the invitation response task to take place.

Tip: The Admin or Editor e-mail address could be set up in the CC or BCC field if a role needs to be copied on all responses. This will increase the amount of e-mail to a person's inbox if you set up your responses in this fashion.

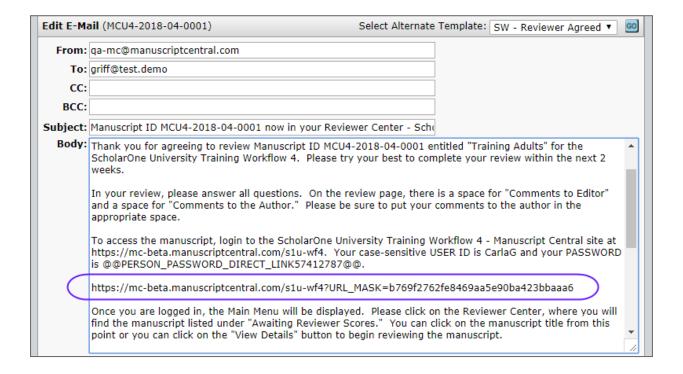


Submitted Workflow Tasks	Edit Before Sending	Active	Required for Event?	Modify	Delete
(Task: AE Invites Reviewers) AE Invites Re	viewers - Auto-C	Decline -	add template		
() (Task: AE Invites Reviewers) AE Invites Re	viewers - Agree	d - add te	<u>emplate</u>		
SW - Reviewer Agreed	•	•			×
() (Task: AE Invites Reviewers) AE Invites Re	viewers - Declin	ed - <u>add</u>	te <u>mplate</u>		
SW - Reviewer Declined	•	•	•		×
() (Task: AE Invites Reviewers) AE Invites Re	viewers - Late R	esponse	- add template		
SW - Reviewer Late Response	•	•	•		×
() (Task: AE Invites Reviewers) AE Invites Re	viewers - No Re	sponse -	add template		
SW - Reviewer No Response	•	•	•		×
(Task: AE Invites Reviewers) AE Invites Reviewers - Unavailable - add template					
SW - Reviewer Unavailable	•	•			×

Note: Avoid setting up multiple e-mails templates for a single task in the Submitted Workflow Tasks section. If the site is using automatic response links in the Invitation E-mails, the system cannot match up which custom Invitation Response E-mail to send.

The **Agreed** e-mail has been formatted with a tag called **##REVIEW_LINK##**. This tag will give the reviewer the ability to access the paper they agreed to review without having to know their User ID or password.





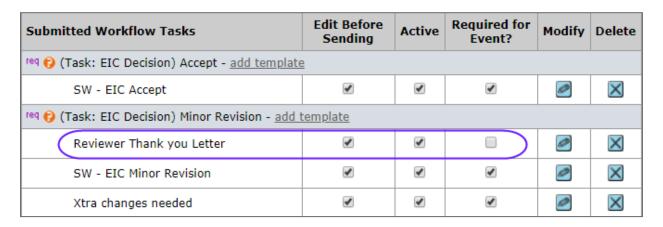
DECISION LETTERS

These templates are the final decisions that are sent to Authors. This is also a section where multiple templates can be of great assistance. Multiple decision letters can be created under each decision type, as well as a thank you letter to reviewers.

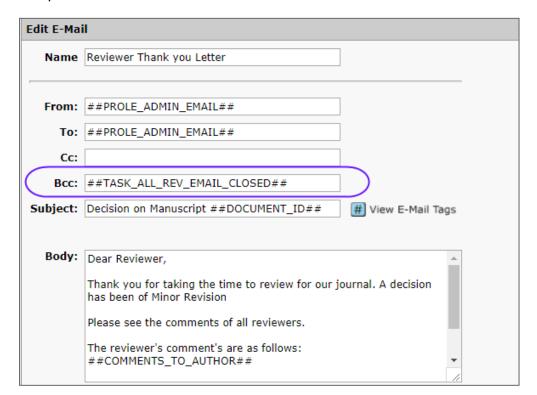
When creating multiple decision letters, **Edit Before Sending**, **Active** and **Required for Event?** must be checked

When creating an "extra" e-mail like the **Thank You to Reviewers**, do not select **Required for Event?** For this template, as this would not allow it to go out from the system as an "extra" e-mail.





The **Thank You to Reviewers** e-mail will contain a tag in the BCC field called: ##TASK_ALL_REV_EMAIL_CLOSED##. The tag blind carbon copies all reviewers who completed a review for the submission.





AUTHOR REMINDERS

The **Author Reminders** are typically used to remind the Author when their revision/resubmission is due. The **Reminder Days** column determines when the reminder is sent out. Each revision/resubmission decision has a set number of days as to how long the Author has to submit. Another option for the Author reminders is to CC or BCC the Admin and/or the Editor on the reminder.

Submitted Workflow Tasks		Reminder Days	Modify	Delete
(Task: EIC Decision) Minor Revision - add template				
SW – Minor Revision due in 2 weeks	•	-14		×
🕜 (Task: EIC Decision) Major Revision - add template				
SW – Major Revision due in 2 weeks	•	-14		×
(Task: EIC Decision) Reject & Resubmit - add template				
SW – Resubmission due in 2 weeks	•	-14		×

Tip: Explain in the reminder to the Author that the link to create their revision/resubmission will be closed if they do not ask for an extension.

SYSTEM E-MAILS

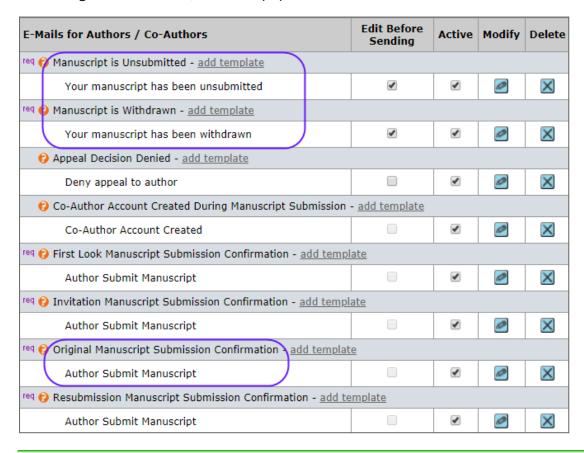
System E-mails are triggered by non-workflow events. These templates are divided into the following sections:

- E-Mails for Authors / Co-Authors
- E-Mails for Invited Author / MRW
- Account Related E-Mails
- Misc. Event-Driven E-Mails



E-Mails for Author / Co-Authors

This section of templates will contain the e-mails used for notifying the Author of the receipt of the original submission, or if their paper has been Unsubmitted or Withdrawn.



Tip: Add text to the **Original Manuscript Submission Confirmation** letting the Author know how long it may take to receive a decision on their paper. This can help reduce the number of inquiries a journal office receives from Authors regarding the status of their paper.

E-mails for Invited Author / MRW

If you are using the Invited Author feature of the system these templates are used for reminding an Author that they have been invited to submit but have not yet responded, as well as the ability to Unassign or Uninvite an Author.

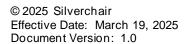


E-Mails for Invited Authors / MRW	Edit Before Sending	Active	Modify	Delete
② Author Invitation Reminder 1 - add template				
Author Invitation Reminder 1		V		×
(2) Author Invitation Reminder 2 - add template	<u> </u>			
Author Invitation Reminder 2		V		×
O Unassign Author - add template	<u> </u>	,	'	'
Unassign Author	~	V		×
C Uninvite Author - add template	<u>'</u>	'		'
Uninvite Author	~	V		×
			(✓ Save

Account Related E-Mails

A good practice for the **Account Related E-Mails** is to leave them at the standard and not edit the templates.

Account Related E-Mails	Edit Before Sending	Active	Modify	Delete
) Create Associate Editor Account On-The-Fly From Pick - a	dd template			
Create Associate Editor account on the fly	V	V		×
Create Reviewer Account On-The-Fly - add template				
Create Reviewer Account On-The-Fly	V	V		×
? Admin Add User - add template				
Admin Add User		V		×
req ? Admin Send Account Info - add template				
Admin Send Account Info	V	V		×
req 😯 User Account Creation Notification - add template				
Your account has been created	П	V		×
req 😯 User Account Modification Notification - add template				<u>'</u>
Your account has been modified	П	V		×
req ? Forgot Password - add template				<u>'</u>
Forgot Password	П	V		×
req 😯 User holds duplicate accounts - add template				
Duplicate Accounts : Unable to send information	П	V		×
€ Role Expired - add template				
			(✓ Save





Misc Event-Driven E-Mails

This section contains e-mail(s) for the Broadcast E-mail feature in the Admin Dashboard. It also contains special e-mails used to remind Reviewers that they have been invited to a paper and not yet responded and e-mails for Unassign Editor and Assign a new Editor.

If you are exporting accepted papers to an FTP site, there is also e-mail for notification if the export fails.

For sites that use Plagiarism Checking, notifications for this feature are also located here.

Edit Before Sending	Active	Modify	Delete		
req 🕑 Conversation Participant Notification - <u>add template</u>					
	•		×		
<u>ite</u>					
ℯ			×		
	•		\times		
		1			
	•		\times		
	•		\times		
	•		×		
ı					
	•		×		
	•		×		
Manuscript Export Failed (File Storage) - add template					
	•		×		
Manuscript Export Succeeded (File Storage) - add template					
	•		×		
	Sending te	Sending Active te	Sending Active Modify te		



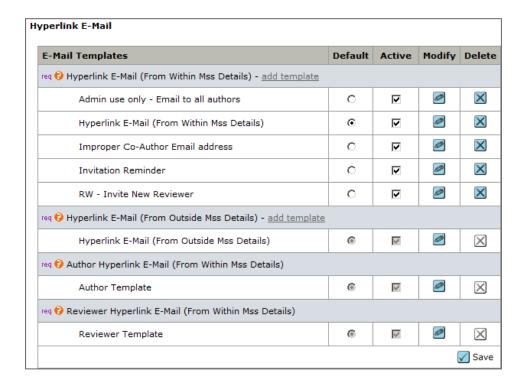
HYPERLINK E-MAILS

A **Hyperlink E-mail** is used anywhere a person's name is underlined in the system. These templates contain basic information in the From, To and Subject line and do not need to be edited.



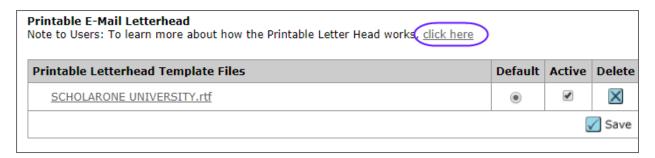
You may create extra Hyperlink E-mails for shortcuts for communications that take place outside the normal workflow process. These templates are available from a drop-down list when e-mailing a person.





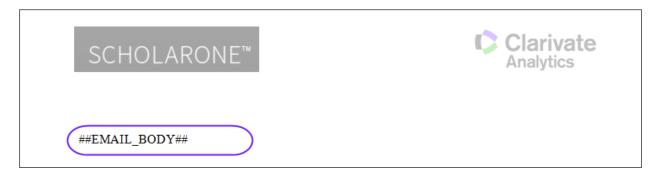
PRINTABLE E-MAIL LETTERHEAD

E-mails are plain text only, meaning that there is no ability to add color or logos. Printable E-mail letterhead allows sites to have their letterhead in the system and can be used to recreate a sent e-mail on to the letterhead and then resend as a PDF file.



Create a .RTF file with the journal or society logo, address and e-mail tag called: ##EMAIL_BODY##





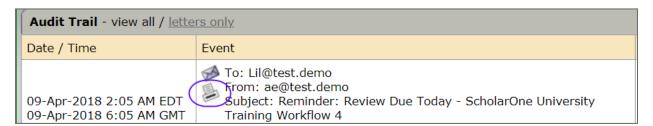
Upload the file and make it Default and Active.

Printable Letterhead Template Files	Default	Active	Delete
ScholarOneLetterhead.rtf	•	V	\times
		(√ Save

Tip: If needed, you can upload more than one letterhead.

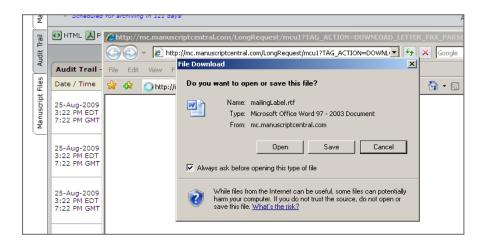
How Printable E-mail Letterhead Works

In the Audit Trail of each submission, you will see a new icon for each e-mail that has been sent from the system.

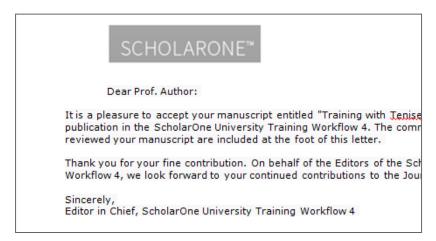


Select the printer icon to open the e-mail on screen and select Open.





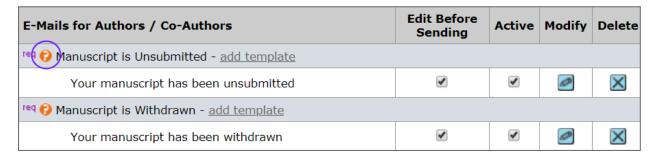
The e-mail is now ready to be saved as a PDF file and resent as a file attachment.



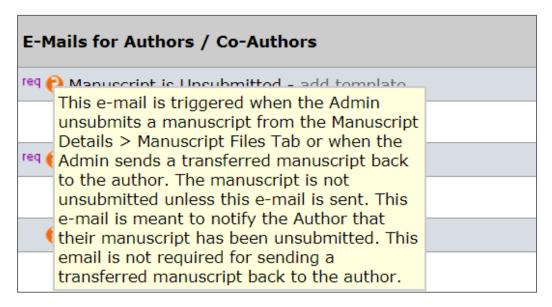


EDITING

When editing e-mail templates, look for the "**req**" symbol next to templates that should not be turned off or deleted.

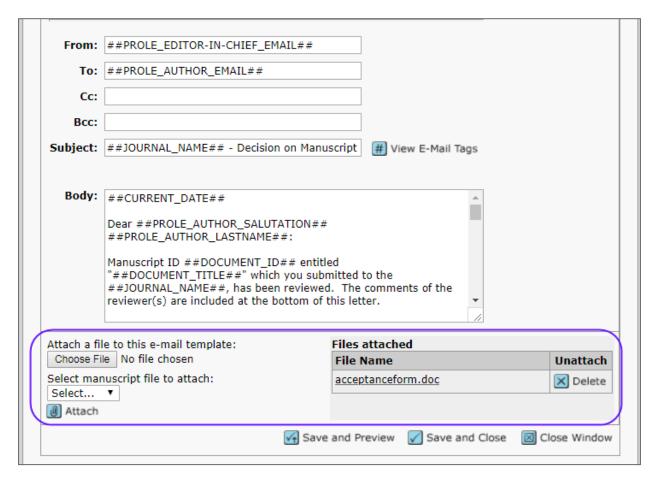


When editing e-mail templates, also look for the orange question mark (?). When you click on the question mark, a text box will appear that tells you when the e-mail is triggered, where it is triggered from, and who can trigger the e-mail.



To edit an e-mail template, click the **Modify** button for the specific template.

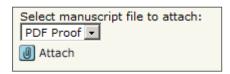




All templates have the ability to have files attached to them, for example, if you need a copyright form sent to an author when the acceptance letter is sent.

Another template that may also need a file attached, might be the Reviewer Agreed e-mail if you wanted to send a reviewer journal specific instructions on how reviews should be conducted.

The PDF proof of a manuscript submission can be selected as a file attachment and added to email templates. Many reviewers want to see a copy of the PDF proof before they agree to review a manuscript.



The system will support the ability to attach the PDF proof to the following email templates:



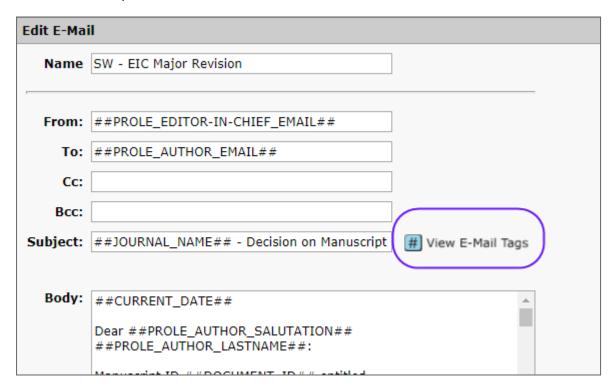
- Decision Letters
- Invitation Emails
- Invitation Response Emails
- Emails Notifications and Reminders
- Hyperlink Emails (From within Ms Details)
- Various System emails

Tip: Any file you attach to a template should be a **PDF** and not a Word document.



E-MAIL TAGS

E-mail tags are used in all templates. These tags act like a placeholder and know exactly what information to pull into an e-mail when it is sent from the system. To access the tag list, click on the **View E-mail Tags** icon located to the right of the **Subject** line in the Edit E-mail section of a template.

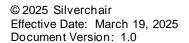




E-Ma	E-Mail Tags				
inste	Person Fields: These tags will usually reflect the properties of the e-mail recipient (in some cases, the PROLE tags are used instead). If you are unsure of whether to use PERSON or PROLE tags, use the pre-configured e-mail templates available on your site as a guide.				
1.	##EXTERNAL USER ID##	External System User Id			
2.	##PERSON_ADDRESS##	Person's full primary address (address line 1, address line 2, address line 3, city, state, country, postal code)			
3.	##PERSON ADDRESS 1##	Person's primary address line 1			
4.	##PERSON ADDRESS 2##	Person's primary address line 2			
5.	##PERSON ADDRESS 3##	Person's primary address line 3			
6.	##PERSON CC EMAIL##	Person's Cc e-mail address			
7.	##PERSON CITY##	Person's city			
8.	##PERSON COUNTRY##	Person's country			
9.	##PERSON DEGREE##	Person's degree			
10.	##PERSON DEPARTMENT##	Person's department			
11.	##PERSON EMAIL##	Person's e-mail address and Person's Cc e-mail address			
12.	##PERSON FAX 1##	Person's primary fax number			
13.	##PERSON FAX 2##	Person's secondary fax number			
14.	##PERSON_FIRSTNAME##	Person's first name			
		(FirstName LastName)			

The tag list is broken out into different sections:

Type of Field	Description of Tag	Examples
Person Fields	These tags will usually reflect the properties of the e-mail recipient (in some cases, the PROLE tags are used instead)	First Name, Full Name, Country, User ID, Password
User Fields	These tags will reflect the properties of the user who is currently logged in to the system.	Same
Site Fields	These tags will contain journal-specific information. Some of these are pulled from the Configuration Settings fields that Admins complete.	Journal Name, Support Phone, Admin E-mail, Site URL

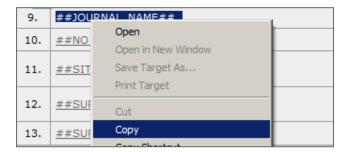




Document Fields	These tags will reflect the properties of the current manuscript.	Authors, Title, Date Submitted, Abstract
Document Roles	These tags will reflect the properties of people associated with the manuscript. These can be used to represent either the sender or the recipient of the e-mail.	Author Full name, Reviewer E-mail, Associate Editor Institution
Attributes	These tags will reflect the attributes (keywords, areas of expertise) configured for the site.	Attributes, Keywords
Custom Questions	These tags will reflect the answers to any custom questions requested by the journal.	# of Color Figures, Conflict of Interest
Document Task Fields	These tags will reflect items concerning the peer review of the manuscript.	Editor Recommendation, Comments to Author
Invitation Fields	Invitation Fields	Invitation Responses Link
Invited Paper / MRW Fields	These fields will reflect items concerning Invited Papers and MRWs.	Topic Description, Topic Title
Transfer Document Fields	Transfer Document Fields	Target Journal, Target Admin Name
User Defined Fields	User Defined Fields	Editorial Board, Review Manager

To add a tag into a template, highlight the tag with your mouse and then right-click to copy.

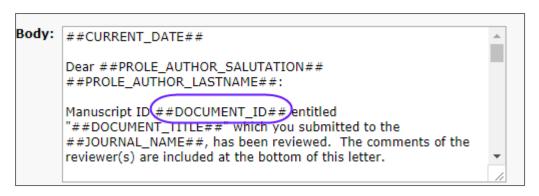




In the template, put your cursor where you want the tag to appear and right-click to paste.



The tag will then appear where you need it.



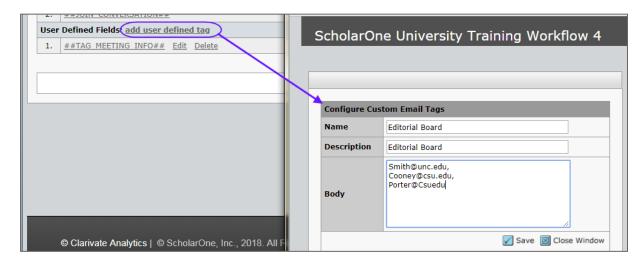
Tip: At the bottom of the tag list there is a button to export the tag list into a CSV file.





ADDING USER DEFINED TAGS

At the bottom of the tag list there is a link to add User Defined Tags. These tags can be for journal specific items, such as the Editorial Board e-mail addresses, or even a link to the registration for the annual meeting for a society.



User De	Jser Defined Fields: <u>add user defined tag</u>		
1. #:	#TAG EDITORIAL BOARD## Edit Delete	Editorial Board	
2. #:	#TAG MEETING INFO## Edit Delete	Meeting Info	

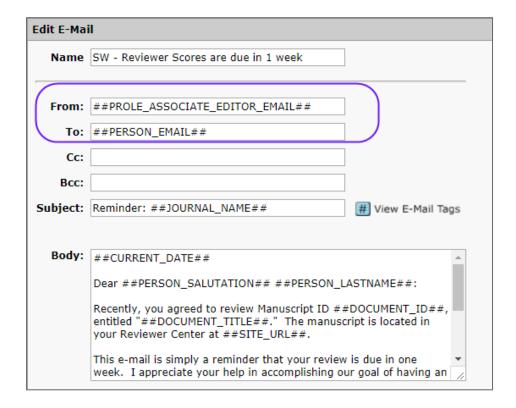
USING PROLE AND PERSON TAGS

PROLE describes the person or group of persons within a role. **PERSON** tag describes the single individual who needs to receive the e-mail.

Example: If you put a PROLE tag in the "**To**" field of a Reviewer Reminder all Reviewers would be notified about the one PERSON who is late.

Therefore, we use the PERSON tag in the "To" field of a Reviewer Reminder.





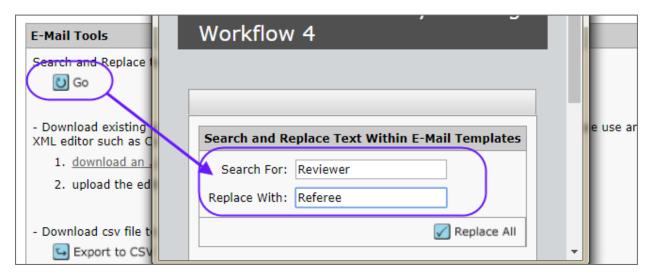




E-MAIL TOOLS

SEARCH AND REPLACE

This is the ability to search and replace text in the e-mail templates.



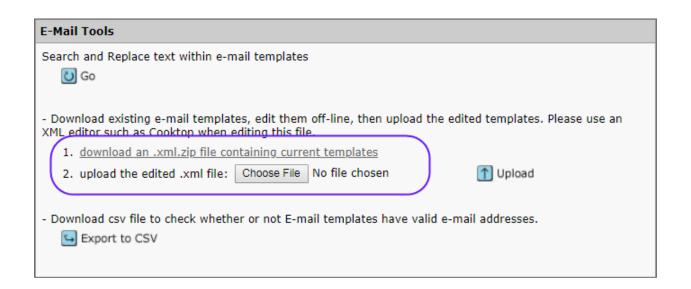
Note: This tool works across all templates not just a specific section of templates.



XML

If you are familiar with XML, you can download all the templates in your site and edit them offline, and then upload the edited version.

Note: You cannot delete any items in the XML, as it will throw off the order of your templates when you upload the edited file.



Tip: If you are going to use the XML option, keep a copy of the original XML.



For Assistance contact our support team at: s1help@silverchair.com

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