

Science News Pitching Guidelines

Science News is a monthly magazine and a daily news website covering the latest scientific advances across a range of topics, as well as the science behind the news. Our stories are often study/new research/emerging research–based and accessible to a general audience, people who are science interested/curious and want to understand the world around them. Our health & medicine coverage includes breakthroughs, trends in medicine and findings that have relevance for consumers. On the feature side, that might include exploring AI use in medicine, investigating GLP-1 compounding or tracing advances in prosthetics. On the news side, it might include timely stories on the science behind rising autism rates, microplastics in the brain and a new understanding of a mechanism involved in allergic reactions.

We accept freelance pitches for online news stories, reviews and features. We encourage freelancers to take a look at our past health & medicine coverage (<https://www.sciencenews.org/topic/health-medicine>).

Also check out our freelancer guidelines

(https://societyforscience-my.sharepoint.com/personal/mmorehouse_sciencenews_org/Documents/Desktop/AHCJ%202025/Science%20News%20freelancer%20guidelines).

Our compensation generally ranges from \$400 for briefs to \$650 for our standard length news story (500-600w) to ~\$3,500 for features, which run about 2,500 to 3,500 words. For digital first news stories, we offer an extra \$150 for stories picked up for the print edition and \$100 for stories that are converted for our sister publication for kids, Science News Explores.

The below template can be a guide to pitching a story for Science News. Pitches for features may require a little more depth and context.

How should we tell the story (i.e. brief, regular news, feature, explainer, Q&A, etc.)

Scientific Journal (if applicable):

Embargo (if applicable):

What's the news? (3-5 sentences)

Why do we care? (3-5 sentences)

Any caveats?

What else should we know?

Links to previous coverage related to this idea (typically from Science News):

What visuals or multimedia will go with your story?