

RMC-SCBWI Fall Conference Manuscript Critiques

This is your chance to get professional feedback on your work! Unlike writing contests, the Manuscript Critique provides a valuable and constructive critique from a published author, an agent, or an editor. [Please note that virtual critiques are held during the conference. You will likely miss part of the conference sessions for your one-on-one appointment, however, all sessions will be recorded and available to registered attendees for later viewing.](#)

Submissions must be **RECEIVED BY August 1, 2020, 5 p.m. MDT** for consideration.

MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION

- **FORMAT:** All manuscripts should be formatted with **1-inch margins, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font.**
 - The first manuscript page may begin at the top of the page. Begin with the first page of the story (do not submit chapters from the middle or end).
 - You do NOT need to start a new page for a new chapter.
 - Include a header with the manuscript title, author name, and page number on each page. (No cover page required this year.)
- **SUBMIT:**
 - **EARLY READERS, MIDDLE GRADE, AND YA** (fiction or nonfiction):
 - Submit up to 10 pages (try to find a natural stopping place)
 - Optional: a one- or two-page, double-spaced synopsis. Synopsis should be formatted as described above.
 - **PICTURE BOOKS** (fiction or nonfiction):
 - Submit a complete manuscript up to 2000 words (text only).
- **SEND** the following to our Manuscript Critique Coordinator:
 - Attach completed Manuscript Critique Registration Form (from page 3 of this document).
 - **Attach manuscript and optional synopsis together as one Word document saved as your first and last name and title of**

manuscript (picture book submissions should NOT include a synopsis).

- Copy and paste or attach proof of conference registration and manuscript critique payment (included in itemized SCBWI Online Registration form.) Contact registrar for special circumstances.
registrar.rmc.scbwi@gmail.com
- Please Format the Subject line as follows: Your Name, Fall, Your critiquer's name. (**Example:** Lois Lowry, Fall, Super-Agent-Name)
- **SEND TO:**
Denise Schurr, Critique Coordinator:
manuscripts.RMC.scbwi@gmail.com

THINGS TO NOTE

- You must be an attendee of the Fall Conference to participate in the Manuscript Critique.
- Manuscripts that do not meet the style and submission requirements (including formatting, and page limits) **WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.**
- Please make sure you are available 5 minutes prior to your critique time to allow for check-in. **If you have special scheduling needs, please indicate them on the registration form or email the Critique Coordinator:**
manuscripts.RMC.scbwi@gmail.com
- Only one manuscript per person, please.

Questions? Contact Denise Schurr at manuscripts.RMC.scbwi@gmail.com. Thank you—and good luck!

MANUSCRIPT CRITIQUE FAQ

1. *Where do I find registration confirmation?*

Members: Log into the main SCBWI.org page. On the left-hand sidebar of your member profile page, click on "Event History." Under 2020 Letters & Lines event, click "View Registration Confirmation." It will show registration and the purchase of a manuscript critique that you can copy and paste.

2. *My manuscript was submitted after the deadline. Why was it disqualified?*

Because of our tight schedule, manuscripts needed to be **RECEIVED** by the deadline date. This was clearly stated in the instructions and we're very sorry you missed it. **Please Note:** We are unable to offer refunds for missed deadlines.

3. *I forgot to include a synopsis with my novel manuscript submission. Can I send it now?*

No. A synopsis is suggested, but not essential. The manuscript can be reviewed without it.

4. *My first chapter ends on page 11 and the limit is 10 pages. Can I just send 11 so you'll have a complete chapter?*

No. Please limit your manuscript to 10 pages. If your chapter is longer than 10 pages, look for a natural stopping point before that and send the pages up to that point. If we receive a manuscript over the page count (for novels) or word count (for picture books), they will not be included in the critique.

5. *How do you select the authors who provide critiques?*

All authors invited to critique are authors published in the same genres as the manuscripts they critique. We also select authors who have a good track record for providing helpful feedback on manuscripts. Authors often provide more detailed and in-depth feedback than busy editors!

6. *I had to miss the conference and my critique! Can I still get my feedback?*

Yes! Just contact Denise (manuscripts.RMC.scbwi@gmail.com). She can send you a scanned copy of your manuscript and your reviewer's written comments via email. She can also send hard copies, if you provide a 10" x 12" self-addressed, stamped envelope.

7. *How do virtual critiques work?*

You will meet in a virtual Zoom breakout room with your faculty critiquer for your 15-minute one-on-one appointment where you will receive your feedback. You will receive your appointment time in advance of the conference via email, with further, detailed instructions on how to log in for your critique.

MANUSCRIPT CRITIQUE REGISTRATION FORM

(Please read the Manuscript Critique instructions and FAQ carefully)

Name: _____ Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Email address: _____

Membership Status:

___ SCBWI PAL Member

___ SCBWI Full Member

___ SCBWI Associate Member

Chapter/Region if outside the Rocky Mountain Chapter: _____

Manuscript title: _____

Manuscript type: _____ (picture book, early reader, MG, YA, / fiction/nonfiction, etc.)

I will be attending the conference: ___ Saturday & Sunday ___ Saturday only ___ Sunday only

My critique is with: _____

Send the following to the Critique Coordinator per the Manuscript Critique instructions:

- Copy and paste or attach completed Manuscript Critique Registration Form
- Attach manuscript and synopsis (synopsis is optional; do not include for picture book submissions) together as one Word document.**
 - Manuscript (and optional synopsis for novels) formatted with 1-inch margins and 12-point Times New Roman font; double-spaced
- Copy and paste or attach proof of conference registration and manuscript critique payment (SCBWI Online Registration form, \$50 for SCBWI members). Contact registrar for special circumstances. registrar.rmc.scbwi@gmail.com
- Send to Denise Schurr at manuscripts.RMC.scbwi@gmail.com

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