Peer Review

An author submits his or her manuscript to a journal.

An editor of the journal reviews the manuscript for things like content, clarity, and what information and knowledge the article brings to the field of study.

The editor can reject the manuscript at this point and not submit it for peer review.

The editor then submits the article to the peer reviewers. The peer reviewers are other experts in that same field of study. If you have a paper about mechanical engineering, other mechanical engineers who are experts in that subject will review the paper.

The peer reviewers will quality check the article. They will look to see if the research contributes something new to the field, has sound methodology, the conclusions are supported, and if it is appropriate for the journal.

The article will then be:

Accepted
Rejected
Sent back to the author for revisions