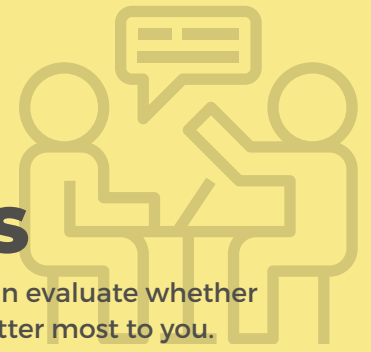


QUESTIONS TO ASK ACQUISITIONS EDITORS



Use conversations with editors to learn about them and their presses so you can evaluate whether they would be good partners for your book. Focus on the questions that matter most to you.

HOW THINGS WORK AT THEIR PRESS

What kinds of promotion do they do?

What formats do they publish in?

How many copies do they typically sell in each format?

What's a typical price point?

Do they support digital or open access publishing?

Do they have a strong trade program?
How do they decide that a book has trade potential?

How long does peer review typically take?

Do they issue advance contracts?

What kinds of writing samples do they accept with proposals?

Do they have guidelines about manuscript length (or anything else) they can share?

How do they demonstrate a commitment to anti-racism and justice for historically excluded authors?

THEIR PERSONAL INTERESTS & EXPERTISE

What kinds of books are they excited about right now?

How do they like to work with authors?

Have they ever had a problem with an author or peer reviewer? How did they resolve it?

HOW WOULD THEY PUBLISH YOUR BOOK?*

How do they see your book fitting with their publishing program?

Is there a series your book would be appropriate for? What are the benefits of publishing with that series?

What do they see as the major contribution or sales appeal of your book?

Do they have any initial ideas about format, packaging, or promotion for your book?

How would their press help you reach your core readership?

Are there less obvious audiences they could help you reach?

Do they think your book has crossover or trade potential?

Would an advance contract be possible?
How soon could it be issued?

What types of peer reviewers do they think would be helpful for your manuscript?

Do they have any concerns or suggestions they'd like to share about your project?

*Wait until an editor expresses strong interest in your project before asking these questions

A good editor will welcome your questions and want you to feel comfortable partnering with them on your book.

For more on working with your editor, see **THE BOOK PROPOSAL BOOK**.