

Guidelines for Graduate Supervisors and Students involving an editor in student thesis and dissertation writing

Final decisions about hiring an editor during the final phases of writing the thesis or dissertation are made by each supervisor (or committee) on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with the student. Students should not engage an editor before discussing with their supervisor.

If a supervisor (or committee) decides to allow or encourage a student to hire an editor, the student should:

There is a difference between peer review and professional editing. Students can freely discuss their work needs for their thesis with professors, colleagues, and peers, as long as the work remains their own and they follow nursing ethics (e.g., regarding confidentiality). However, if students wish to work with a professional (i.e., paid) editor, they should discuss this with their supervisor.

Editing of the student dissertation brings ethical challenges. Students are expected to do their own intellectual work, which includes organizing their ideas into a well-organized, well-organized prose. Furthermore, a graduate education requires that students use a consistent bibliographic style, such as APA. They should be open to suggestions on editing, and proofreading (see [linked below](#)), already in their thesis or dissertation.

Supervisors and students may want to use a three-way contract between the editor, student, and supervisor. The contract should be agreed upon areas for change. EAC provides a blueprint contract in their document, Guidelines for Ethical Editing of Theses / Dissertations. [View the contract at http://www.graduatecenter.org/ethics/ethics.html](#)