



African Homestead Legacy Publishers

## **Book Proposal Submission Guidelines**

African Homestead Legacy Publishers welcomes book proposals from all individuals who have written original works or translated original works that document and analyze aspects of the lives of people of African descent throughout the diaspora. AHLP Acquisition editors and a panel of reviewers who are subject matter experts or have creative writing expertise evaluate all submissions that are *well-written* and fall into *one of the categories* listed below:

- scholarly nonfiction suitable for course adoption and acquisition by research libraries, academic and independent scholars, and policymakers;
- literary fiction (novels and anthologies of short fiction) and nonfiction (poetry anthologies) written for general readers that is also suitable for course adoption;
- light fiction and nonfiction written for general readers that includes, autobiography, biography, human interest stories, inspirational, and self-help books.

If AHLP accepts the proposal and acquires the publishing rights from the author(s) in a signed contract, AHLP will publish the forthcoming title under one of five imprints, depending on the work's subject matter and audience:

**African Homestead Legacy Publishers**—scholarly nonfiction, literary fiction (novels and anthologies), folklore, dramatic works, journals, and other periodicals;

African American and Canadian Series

Africa and Caribbean Series

Literary Fiction, Folklore, and Poetry Series

**Oyinde Publishing** —novellas and romance novels, poetry, inspirational, and self-help;

**AHLP Books**— autobiography and biography for a general readership;

**AHLP Communications**—technical books on writing, communications, and information technology;

soon-to-be-named imprint for juvenile and children's literature.

AHLP also will re-publish titles that are out of print *for which the publishing rights are held solely by the author(s)* or if the work was published with a non exclusive contract.

### **Subject matter and specifications**

#### *Nonfiction*

AHLP has a special interest in these academic disciplines: African studies; African American studies; African Canadian studies; art; anthropology; biography; Caribbean and Latin American studies; communications; conflict studies; culture; cultural anthropology; economics; education;



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folklore; history; international relations; language and linguistics; law; literary criticism; literary fiction; mass media; medicine; music; natural sciences; nursing; Pan-African studies; performing arts; political communication; political science; philosophy; psychology; public health; sociology; women's studies; and others.

*Specifications for scholarly nonfiction (monographs, edited volumes, references), literary fiction, and folklore*

AHLP publishes most of its titles in a trim size of 6 inches by 9 inches and with a page count of 224, 240, or 256 (even multiple of 16 according to publishing industry standards). To maintain these title specifications for scholarly nonfiction, AHLP will only accept finished manuscripts with a word count between 60,000 and a maximum of 89,000 effective November 1, 2007. AHLP will produce folklore or literary fiction and nonfiction at 224, 240, or 256 pages *and as very short works* of 96, 112, 128, or 144 pages (word count between 20,000 and 50,000). AHLP will allow a higher word count for *reference works or multi-volume sets*, such as biographical dictionaries, encyclopedias, compilation of letters or other historical documents, and works with a large number of statistical tables or genealogical tables. For multi-volume sets, the word count limit of 89,000 will apply to each volume.

Documentation in the manuscript must be prepared as *endnotes* and a *full or partial bibliography* according to the *Chicago Manual of Style 15<sup>th</sup> Edition*. If the manuscript was formatted using another style guide system, such as author-date and reference lists, convert the documentation before submission.

*Literary fiction and folklore*

AHLP publishes contemporary and historical fiction on a variety of subjects. AHLP areas of interest are diverse: roman à clef novels (fiction based on actual events); folklore tales, legends, oral history, proverbs, humor, and popular beliefs of an ethnic group, nation, region(s), or continent; dramatic works. Manuscript specifications are described above in the scholarly nonfiction category.

*Novellas, romance novels, poetry, autobiography and biography, inspirational, self-help, popular culture*

AHLP publishes nonfiction and lighter fiction to entertain, educate, and inspire general reading audiences. Biographical or autobiographical narratives, self-help, inspirational writings are special interests. Since page counts for this category are 160, 176, 192, 208, and 224 pages, the word count for the completed manuscript must range between 45,000 and 60,000 words. AHLP also will produce very short works of 96, 112, 128, or 144 pages with a word count between 20,000 and 50,000.



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### *Juvenile and children's literature*

AHLP publish fiction and nonfiction for general reading and classroom use on a variety of subjects. Book trim sizes are generally 8 inches by 10 inches, 8.5 inches by 8.5 inches, and 8 inches by 11 inches. Juvenile books for youth in grades 9 through 12 will also have trim sizes of 5.5 inches by 8.5 inches and 6 inches by 9 inches. Page counts may range from 16, 32, 48, 64, and higher (always even multiples of 16). Books with 64 pages or less will have a saddle stitched binding (staple), unless the project justifies use of a heavy paper that allows a perfect (adhesive paperback) or hardcover binding.

### **I. Authors of new works must submit a book proposal with either the complete manuscript (e.g., monograph or dissertation) or an excerpt.**

Send the title page, table of contents, two sample chapters, or five sample entries for dictionaries and encyclopedias, and a bibliography (not a reference list). Your cover letter must include contact information (mailing address, telephone, and email) and a description of your relevant academic, employment, and research background.

### **The book proposal must contain the following:**

1. **Proposed title:** Your title should be informational and as brief as possible (seven words are ideal). It must contain all keywords that will allow researchers to understand the content and find it easily through an Internet or database search engine. Otherwise, you may express additional concepts or secondary descriptive information in the subtitle.
2. **Author(s) or editor(s):** List the name(s) that will appear on the title page. If there is more than one author or editor, list all names in the order that they will appear on the title page. Please also give the academic or work affiliation of each author.
3. **Compiler(s) and illustrator(s):** List if included on the title page.
4. **General overview and subject(s):** A one or two paragraph description is acceptable.
5. **Thesis, central arguments, plot:** A one or two paragraph description is acceptable.
6. **Research method(s):** A one or two paragraph description is acceptable.
7. **Proposed specifications:** This should be a best estimate of the number of words of the finished work. This includes the front matter, (i.e., preface or foreword, acknowledgments), body of the text (introduction and main chapters), and end matter (epilogue or afterword, appendixes, glossary, bibliography, index). You must also give the total number of photographs and illustrations (tables, graphs, charts, maps, etc.).
8. **Primary audience:** Describe who will use your book — specialists, graduate students, undergraduates, secondary schools, the general adult public, children, juveniles, young adults.
9. **Publication date:** Normally publication takes from 18 to 24 months. Please state any factors that support your need for us to accelerate the publication date (for example,



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application for tenure, scheduled special event, subject relates to newsworthy current event).

10. **Course adoption:** Please state if a department of an academic institution will adopt your book as a text, the name and number of sections of the course or courses in which they will use your book and the total expected number of copies that the institution's bookstore will purchase.

11.) **Pre-publication purchase of books:** Please state if you wish to purchase more than 25 copies of your book to sell in a restricted North American or European market, or a foreign market. If you will sell overseas, please state the geographic location(s), give the book's expected retail price in the currency of each locale, and the current U.S. exchange rates for each nation's currency.

12.) **Bibliography:** Attach a full or partial bibliography prepared according to the Chicago Manual of Style 15th Edition. Do not send a reference list.

### **II. Author(s) and editor(s) of previously published titles that are out of print, or were published through a nonexclusive contract**

Submit a copy of the contract and correspondence with former publisher to document that the author(s) or editor(s) solely hold the publishing rights (i.e., rights have reverted to author(s) or editor(s)).

***If you only had an oral agreement with your publisher, please state that in writing.***

Under U.S. Law, oral agreements are non-exclusive and authors may grant publishing rights to any other party without restriction.

In addition to these documents, send a copy of the published book. If you plan to change the title, revise or update the text, add new illustrations, please provide the following information:

New proposed title.

List of all revisions.

Estimated number of words.

### **III. Submission Address:**

African Homestead Legacy Publishers  
100 Springdale Rd A3 #206  
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003-3300

Send submissions by email as an Adobe PDF or rich text file (RTF):  
[editors@ahlpub.com](mailto:editors@ahlpub.com).

If you have any questions, please e-mail [editors@ahlpub.com](mailto:editors@ahlpub.com).