

OZIGI

Community Writing Program

Writer Guide

OPEN TO WRITERS

hello@ozigi.app · blog.ozigi.app · ozigi.app/write

1. About the Program

The Ozigi Community Writing Program is an open contributor initiative for writers who want to publish technical, marketing, and content strategy articles on blog.ozigi.app.

Accepted contributors receive a stipend for each published article. We do not publish everything submitted. Articles must meet our quality bar and fit our editorial focus.

STIPEND NOTE

Accepted contributors receive a stipend per published article. At this time, stipend transfers are supported for Nigerian bank accounts. Contributors outside Nigeria are warmly welcome. We are actively working to expand payment support to additional regions.

Questions about your region: hello@ozigi.app

What we publish

- Engineering — technical tutorials, architecture decisions, implementation guides, code patterns
- Marketing — growth strategies, audience building, launch tactics, GTM frameworks
- Content — content strategy, copywriting techniques, platform-specific distribution
- Tools Roundup — honest reviews and comparisons relevant to developers and technical creators
- Ozigi Focus — product deep dives and tutorials specifically about using Ozigi

2. The Ozigi Voice

Every article must read like it was written by someone who has actually done the thing they're describing. Direct, specific, and free of corporate filler.

Be specific — always

Generic claims are the most common reason articles get returned. Every claim needs a specific example, a number, a named tool, or a concrete scenario.

✗ Don't write this	✓ Write this instead
<i>We significantly improved performance using cloud infrastructure.</i>	We cut cold start from 1m 35s to 58s by moving from Vercel serverless to a persistent Fly.io container.
<i>AI tools are transforming how companies approach content strategy.</i>	Stripe's DevRel team publishes 3–5 technical posts per week. The ones that perform use specific numbers — not general observations.

Avoid AI-speak

These words will get your article returned. They signal unreviewed, filler content:

delve, tapestry, leverage, robust, seamless, revolutionize, cutting-edge, game-changer, paradigm, holistic, impactful, transformative, underscore, garner, pivotal, multifaceted, in today's fast-paced world, it goes without saying, first and foremost, at the end of the day

3. Article Structure

Frontmatter	Required. See Section 4. Articles without valid frontmatter are discarded without review — no exceptions.
TL;DR block	Required. 50–80 words immediately after frontmatter. Answers the core question in plain language. AI search engines extract this block.
Introduction	2–3 paragraphs. Start with the problem. Never open with 'In this article I will...'
Body sections	Minimum 3 H2 sections. Each section makes one clear argument or covers one concept.
Conclusion	1–2 paragraphs. One specific takeaway or next step. Not 'I hope you found this helpful.'

Word count by section

Section	Words	Notes
Engineering	1,200–2,500	Longer is fine if technical depth justifies it
Marketing	900–1,800	Concise and actionable
Content	800–1,600	Every point immediately applicable
Tools Roundup	800–1,500	Pros, cons, best use case per tool
Ozigi Focus	600–1,200	Clear and direct

4. Frontmatter — Required, No Exceptions

CRITICAL
 Articles submitted without complete, valid frontmatter are discarded immediately — no review, no feedback.
 Copy the template below exactly. Fill in every required field. Do not rename any field.

```

---
title: "Your Article Title Here"
date: "2026-04-08"
description: "One sentence. Under 160 characters. Used in Google search results."
coverImage: "/images/blog/your-article-slug/cover.png"
section: "Engineering"
author: "Your Full Name"
authorImage: "/images/authors/your-name.jpg"
authorBio: "1-2 sentences about you. What you build, where you work, what you write about."
authorUrl: "https://linkedin.com/in/your-profile"
authorHandle: "@yourhandle"
readTime: "7 min read"
keywords: ["keyword one", "keyword two", "keyword three"]
---

> TL;DR: Your 50-80 word plain-language answer to the article's core question.
> No jargon. This is the single most important block in your article.

# Your Article Title

Your introduction begins here...
    
```

title	Required. Match your H1 exactly. Under 70 characters.
date	Required. Submission date in YYYY-MM-DD format.
description	Required. One sentence, under 160 characters. Appears in Google results.
coverImage	Required. Placeholder path to your cover image. See Section 5.
section	Required. Exactly one of: Engineering / Marketing / Content / Tools Roundup / Ozigi Focus
author	Required. Your full name as it appears on the blog.
authorImage	Required. Path to your headshot. Format: /images/authors/firstname-lastname.jpg
authorBio	Required. 1-2 sentences, max 200 characters. What you build and what you write about.
authorUrl	Recommended. Link to your LinkedIn, X profile, or personal site.
authorHandle	Optional. Display label for your link. E.g. @yourhandle or linkedin.com/in/yourprofile
readTime	Optional. Estimate — 200 words ≈ 1 minute.
keywords	Required. Array of 3-6 lowercase search phrases.

5. Images

Every article needs a cover image. Articles over 800 words need at least one inline image. Use placeholder paths in your MDX — upload the actual files separately in the submission form.

Image placeholder format

```
![Clear description of what this image shows] (/images/blog/your-article-slug/filename.png)
```

Example:

```
![Ozigi dashboard with a GitHub URL in the context field, Generate button active] (/images/blog/banned-lexicon-guide/dashboard-input.png)
```

NAMING RULE

The filename in your placeholder path must exactly match your uploaded image file. dashboard-input.png in the path = file named dashboard-input.png in the form. No spaces in filenames. Use hyphens. Case sensitive.

Author headshot

Your headshot is required alongside your first submission. It appears next to your name on every article you publish on the Ozigi blog.

- Square crop, face clearly visible, head and shoulders
- Minimum 200×200px (displayed at 64×64px — needs 2x for retina screens)
- JPG or PNG, under 200KB
- Filename format: firstname-lastname.jpg (e.g. adaeze-okonkwo.jpg)
- Reference in frontmatter as: /images/authors/firstname-lastname.jpg
- Upload the file in the submission form — it will be hosted permanently

Article image requirements

- Cover image: 1200×630px minimum, referenced as /images/blog/your-slug/cover.png
- Screenshots: minimum 800px wide, cropped tightly — no full-desktop screenshots
- Alt text: write a real descriptive sentence — not 'Screenshot' or 'Image 1'
- Code must be in fenced code blocks — not screenshots of code
- Cannot create a cover image? Note it in the submission form — we create one for accepted articles

6. Content Guidelines

AI-assisted writing

You may use AI tools — including Ozigi — to assist with research, outlining, or drafting. What we require is that you have personally reviewed and verified every claim in the finished article. The specific examples, technical accuracy, and editorial judgment must be yours.

Articles that are clearly unreviewed AI output — generic, no specific examples, no personal voice — will be returned.

What is not allowed

- Plagiarism — content copied or closely paraphrased from another source without attribution
- Previously published articles — we do not accept syndicated content at this time
- Promotional content for products you have a financial interest in without disclosure
- Unverified technical claims — do not submit a tutorial for something you have not personally done
- Discriminatory content of any kind

Disclosure

If you have a commercial relationship with any tool or product you mention, add one line at the top: 'Disclosure: I receive [benefit] from [Company].'

7. How to Submit

All submissions go through the submission form at ozigi.app/write. Do not send articles by email.

- Full MDX article — paste into the text field, frontmatter included
- Cover image — filename must match your coverImage frontmatter path exactly
- All inline image files — filenames must match placeholder paths exactly
- Your headshot — required on first submission (see Section 5 for specs)
- 3–5 sentence pitch — what the article covers and why it belongs on the Ozigi blog
- Bank account details — required for Nigerian contributors receiving a stipend

BEFORE YOU SUBMIT

- Frontmatter complete — all required fields including authorImage and authorBio
- TL;DR block present and under 80 words
- Article meets minimum word count for its section
- No AI-speak words (Section 2)
- Image filenames match placeholder paths exactly
- Headshot uploaded and filename matches authorImage frontmatter path
- Code in fenced blocks with language specified
- Every factual claim is verified and has a specific example
- Article has not been published anywhere else
- Introduction does not start with 'In this article...'

Editorial timeline

Submission	Automated confirmation within 1 hour.
Initial check — 2 days	Basic requirements verified. Failures returned with specific feedback.
Editorial review — 5 days	Accept, Revise, or Reject. Specific feedback always provided.
Revisions (if needed)	5 days to revise and resubmit.
Publication	Within 3 days of final approval. Live URL sent to you.
Stipend transfer	Within 5 business days of publication (Nigerian bank accounts currently supported).

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