How to Cite the DSM–5 in APA Style

UPDATED

by Jeff Hume-Pratuch, APA editorial staff

The reference list entry for the DSM–5 should look like this:


Text citation: (American Psychiatric Association, 2013)

Individual chapters and other parts of DSM–5 have been assigned DOIs. If you used the online edition of the DSM, give the DOI number in place of the publisher name as in the following example:

doi:10.1176/appi.books.9780890425596.744053

Text citation: (American Psychiatric Association, 2013)

Here's how it would look when cited in your narrative:

*The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (5th ed.; DSM–5; American Psychiatric Association, 2013) is the most widely accepted nomenclature used by clinicians and researchers for the classification of mental disorders.

Once introduced in the first citation, the acronym DSM–5 can be used instead of the title and edition:

The DSM–5’s classification involves a shift from the traditional categorical approach to a dimensional approach. The changes involving the removal of the legal problems criterion and the addition of a craving criterion were retained in the final revision of the diagnostic criteria (American Psychiatric Association, 2013).

If you decide to use an acronym for the APA, introduce it at first reference by placing it in brackets inside parentheses after spelling out the name. Thereafter, use “APA” in citations.

The *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (5th ed.; DSM–5; American Psychiatric Association [APA], 2013) is the most widely accepted nomenclature used by clinicians and researchers for the classification of mental disorders. The changes involving the removal of the legal problems criterion and the addition of a craving criterion were retained in the final revision of the diagnostic criteria (APA, 2013).

**UPDATE:** The post has been revised to reflect the fact that there is no DOI for the entire DSM-5 electronic version; each chapter has its own DOI. (9/4/2013).  
**Source:**