Allow WordPress User Roles to Edit Posts in Single Category

Editing · https://publishpress.com/knowledge-base/roles-edit-single-category/

A PublishPress user asked us this question:

"*Can I set up my WordPress site so users from "Department A" can only create and edit posts in "Category A"? Then we'd like to do the same thing for other departments.*"

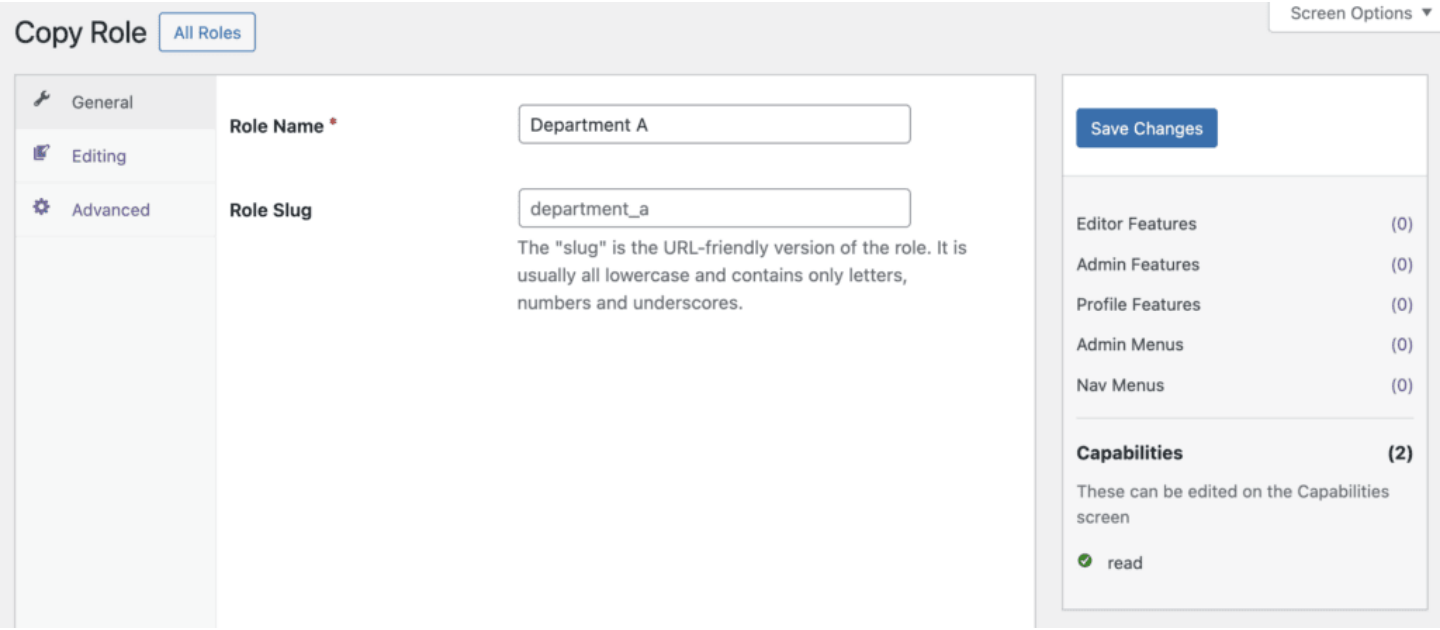
Yes, that is possible with the PublishPress plugins and I'm going to show you how it's done.

Note: this is also possible with other post types such as Pages. You just need to add Categories to that post type. This is possible with a plugin such as TaxoPress from WordPress.org.

Step #1. Create the Roles

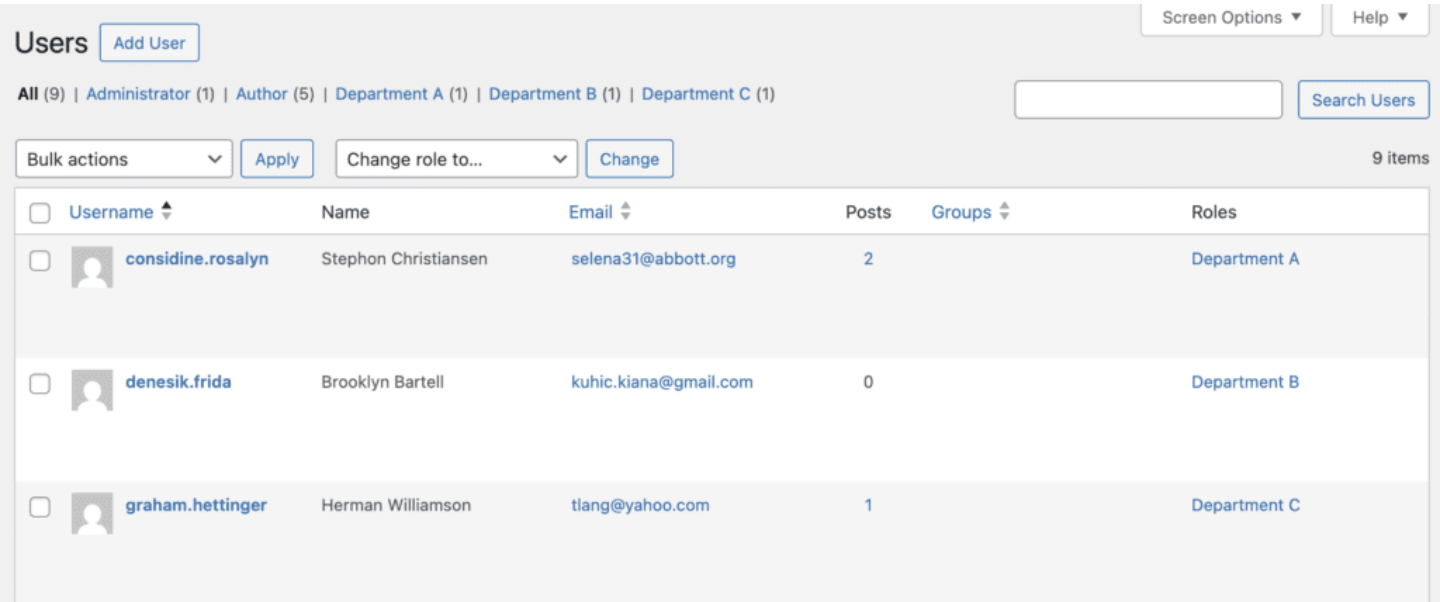
You can create the roles using any plugin or technique, but we're going to show you how to do this using the PublishPress Capabilities plugin.

- Go to "Capabilities" then "Roles" in your WordPress admin.
- Click "Copy" under the "Subscriber" role.
- Enter the name "Department A" for your new role and click "Save Changes".
- You can now repeat this process to create "Department B" and "Department C" roles.



Step #2. Add the Users to Roles

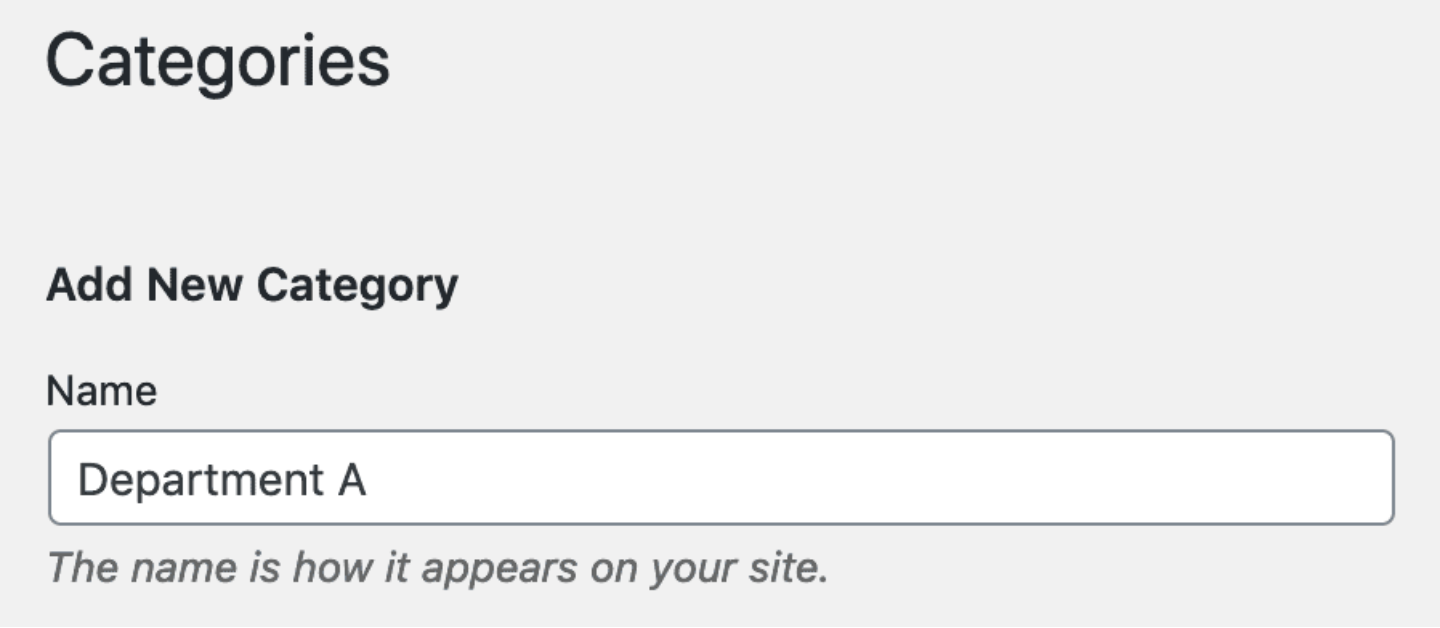
Now you can go to your "Users" area and add users to these different roles. I've added one user to each of my three new roles:



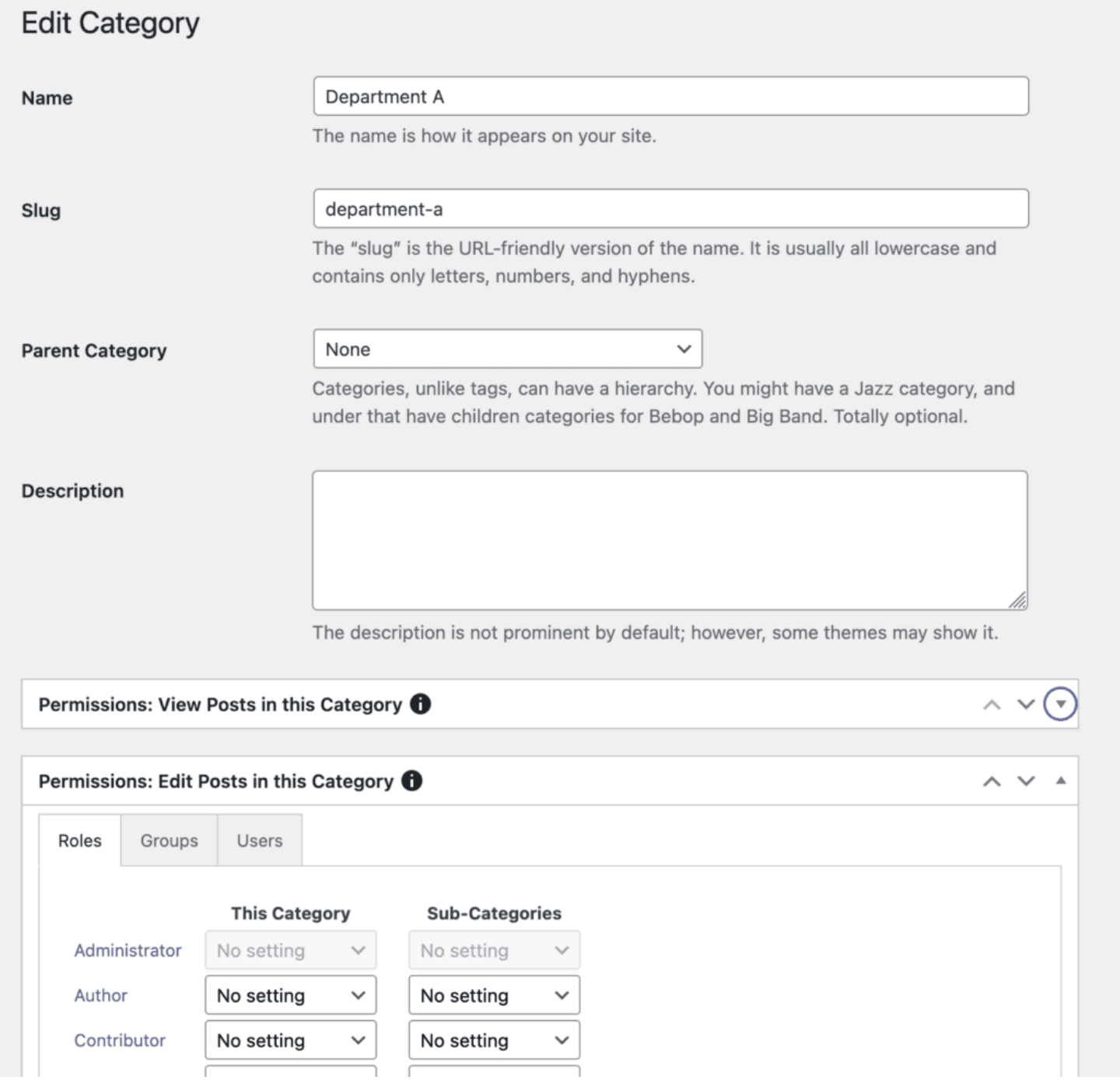
Step #3. Create the Categories

The next step requires installing the PublishPress Permissions Pro plugin.

- After installing the PublishPress Permissions Pro plugin, go to Posts > Categories.
- Create a new category for "Department A":



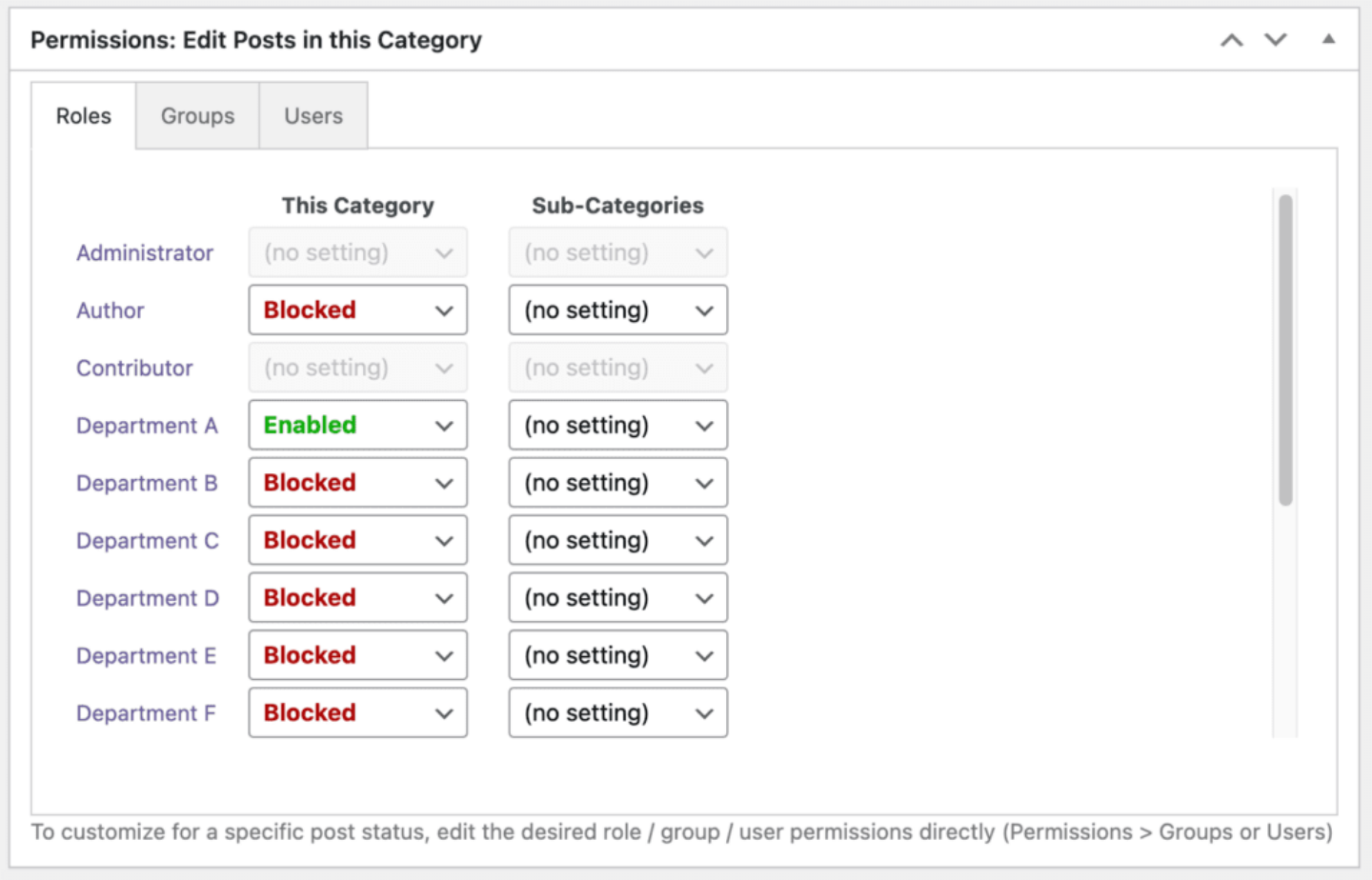
- Click "Edit" for the "Department A" category.
- At the bottom of the screen, look for the box labeled "Edit Posts in this Category".



So you can customize permissions for this category in multiple ways. We're going to use the example of "Post Editing Exceptions". This will control who can edit posts that have this category:

In this example, we will deny editing permissions to everyone except "Department A".

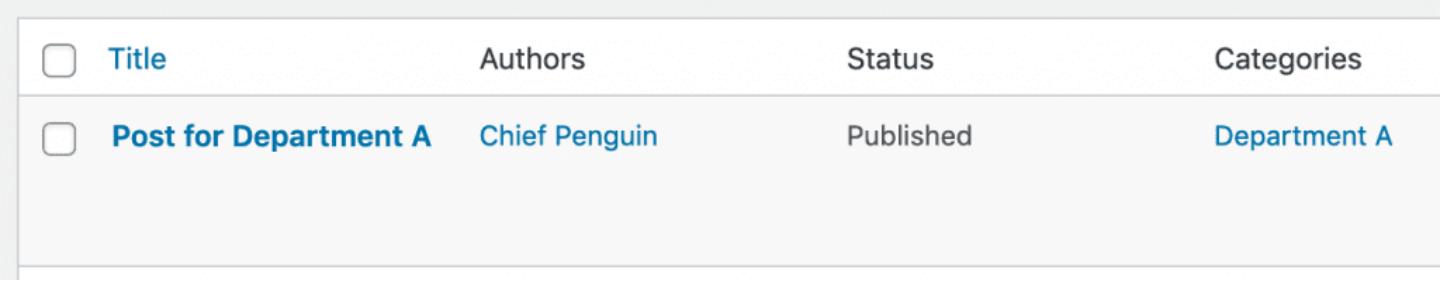
Repeat this process by creating categories for Department B and Department C users.



Step #4. Test the user accounts

At this point, I would highly recommend testing the user accounts to make sure their permissions are accurate. First, let's create a test post:

- Create a Post.
- Add the "Department A" category to your new Post:



Now we're going to login using one of the accounts that we want to restrict.

If you're using dummy users, you can reset their passwords. If you're testing with real users, the User Testing feature is very helpful.

In this example, the Department A users will only be able to see the "Posts" menu link and the Posts that have the "Department A" category. They will not see the Posts for any other department.

Repeat this test for your other departments. When you're finished, you should now have a site with user in different roles can only post or edit content in the category that you choose.

