

Exemplary Reading Program Award

Guidelines and Application

Overview

The Exemplary Reading Program Award is sponsored by the International Literacy Association to recognize outstanding reading and language arts programs at all grade levels (elementary, middle, and high school). Its purpose is to call the public's attention to outstanding programs in schools throughout North America. Each participating state and province can choose one winning school.

Each state/provincial council participating in the program will have an Exemplary Reading Program Award Committee. Not all states/provincial councils elect to participate in the program. The state/provincial committee will review applications and apply the criteria and guidelines listed here using a standardized scoring procedure. Selected schools will be visited by representatives of the state/provincial Exemplary Reading Committee. The name of the winning school and a description of the qualifying program will be sent to ILA by February 15.

Objectives

The program has five objectives: (1) to improve literacy in our society, (2) to recognize school staffs who demonstrate excellence in reading and literacy programs, (3) to encourage the development and refinement of exemplary reading/language arts programs, (4) to report to the public noteworthy efforts to improve reading/ language arts, and (5) to disseminate specific information about high-quality programs so that other professionals can use it to improve their own instructional efforts.

Criteria

1. All public, private, and parochial elementary and secondary schools are eligible for the award if the school has at least one ILA member.
2. The school must apply with its entire reading program, not just one segment (i.e., Title I, resource room, library/ media, teacher, one grade, and the like).
3. The fully completed application form must be signed by the chief school officer (e.g., superintendent).
4. The winning program should serve as a model for other schools and teachers.
5. A school receiving the award cannot apply again within a period of five years.
6. A school is not eligible to apply if a current state or provincial council officer is employed in the school.

For additional information and the application:

<https://www.literacyworldwide.org/about-us/awards-grants/exemplary-reading-award>

Timeline

Prior to November 28 – submit application to Randy Kincaid for review and verification.

November 15 -Applications must be postmarked.

November 28 -Applications must arrive at ILA headquarters. Faxed entries will not be accepted.

February 1 - Validated visits by state/provincial Exemplary Reading Program Award Committee members will be completed.

February 15 - State/provincial Exemplary Reading Program Award Committee chairs will notify ILA headquarters of winners.

February 28 - ILA headquarters will notify recipients of the award.

Deadline: November 28

Applications must be postmarked by November 15 and arrive at IRA headquarters by November 28.

Send your application form and program description to

Exemplary Reading Program Award
International Literacy Association
PO Box 8139
Newark, DE 19714-8139 USA

The state/provincial ERPA chair is Randy Kincaid. Please send the application to Randy Kincaid, randykincaid@sevier.org, prior to submitting to ILA. Randy will review and verify that the application is complete.

The Literacy Association of Tennessee presents a \$500 award to Tennessee schools who receive the ILA Exemplary Reading Program Award.