

ABOUT THE AWARD

The International Literacy Association (ILA) Dina Feitelson Research Award was established to honor the memory of Dina Feitelson. It is a US\$500 award that recognizes an outstanding empirical study, published in English in a peer-reviewed journal, that reports on an investigation of aspects of literacy acquisition such as phonemic awareness, the alphabetic principle, bilingualism, home influences on literacy development, or cross-cultural studies of beginning reading. The results of the research should have clear implications for instruction.

This award is sponsored through a generous donation from the Feitelson family.

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Empirical studies that have been published in a peer-reviewed journal between January 2026 and December 2026 are eligible for consideration.

Articles will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Significance of the issue under investigation
- Suitability of methodology used to investigate the topic or problem
- Presentation and analysis of data
- Appropriateness of conclusions/interpretations
- Implications of the study for school or classroom practice

To be eligible, the lead author of the submitted article must be an ILA member in good standing and maintain active membership through **June 30, 2028**.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are submitted through [an online process](#). Eligible articles should be submitted as a clear, high-quality, and complete copy of the published paper with full bibliographic information identifying the author(s), source, and publication date.

Articles may be submitted by the author or the author's colleagues. Please note that **authors of articles submitted by a colleague are no longer required to complete a separate application.**

SUBMISSION TIMELINE

To be considered for the 2027 Dina Feitelson Research Award, **applications must be completed and all required materials submitted no later than February 1, 2027, at 11:59 p.m. ET.** Applicants will be notified of the results before June 30, 2027.

SELECTION PROCESS

Members of the ILA Dina Feitelson Research Award Committee will review and rate each submission based on the quality of the article submitted and its relevance to the award's intent.

The award will be granted only in years when the committee concludes there is a high-quality submission that meets the rigorous standards outlined above.

Please direct any questions about eligibility, selection criteria, the application process, and/or the selection process to ILAAwards@reading.org.