

The International Literacy Association's (ILA) Jeanne S. Chall Research Fellowship is a US\$5,000 grant that was established to encourage and support promising scholars whose dissertation research addresses reading. The special emphasis of the fellowship is to support research efforts in the following areas: beginning reading (theory, research, and practice that improves the effectiveness of learning to read); readability (methods of predicting the difficulty of texts); reading difficulty (diagnosis, treatment, and prevention); stages of reading development; the relation of vocabulary to reading; and diagnosing and teaching adults with limited reading ability. Because this grant program has been established to honor and carry on the work to which Dr. Jeanne S. Chall dedicated her academic life, proposal excellence will be a primary consideration in the selection process.

Submission Timeline

- Opens week of **November 15, 2020**
- Closes **March 15, 2021**
- Applicants are notified of the results via email by the **end of June 2021**

Eligibility

All applicants *must* be current ILA members. To become an ILA member or renew your membership, please contact ILA Customer Service at 800.336.7323, 302.731.1600, or customerservice@reading.org or visit <https://literacyworldwide.org/membership> to join or renew online.

This grant is open to doctoral students who are planning or beginning their dissertations and to university-based graduate students who are embarking on their independent research studies on the topics noted above. Applicants may apply for more than one ILA research grant but may only accept one research award per year.

How to Apply

Complete your submission using our [online application process](#).

In preparing your submission, adhere explicitly to the guidelines. **DO NOT** include your name on any part of the application other than the **PROFILE section**, which ILA uses for administrative purposes only. *Incomplete proposals not in compliance with the guidelines will be unsubmitted from review.*

Review Procedures and Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be judged on the following criteria:

Criteria

Weight

- Significance of Research Question 4
- Theoretical Framework/Literature Review..... 4
- Rationale for the Research 4
- Appropriateness and Adequacy of the Methodology 4
- Significance/Implications for Practice and Research..... 4
- Clarity, Cohesion, and Specificity..... 4
- Budget and Timeline..... 4

A blind review will be conducted by members of the ILA Jeanne S. Chall Research Fellowship/ILA Helen M. Robinson Grant/ILA Steven A. Stahl Grant Committee. Recommendations for funding will be made to ILA’s Board of Directors for final approval.

- Decisions will be based on the quality of the application, relevance to the award’s intent, and the quality of supporting materials.
- The award will be made only in those years when the committee concludes there is an application of high quality.

Grant Recipient Requirements and Funds

Projects must be completed within two years of the award date. However, a one-year extension may be considered but must be requested via email to ILAAwards@reading.org.

The grant recipient is expected to file an interim report providing an update on research at the midpoint of the study and a final report at the completion of the study.

The grant funds will be distributed in three payments. The first installment (45% of grant) will be disbursed at the beginning of the study; the second installment (45%) when an interim report is submitted; and the final installment (10%) upon receipt of the final report. *ILA does not support any indirect costs associated with its grants.*

Upon completion of the project, the recipient is encouraged to submit an article for publication in an ILA journal or to present research findings at an ILA conference within two years of the award date. ILA has the right to consider the material developed under this grant for publication prior to its submission elsewhere.

Please direct any questions about this grant to ILAAwards@reading.org.