

ABOUT THE AWARD

The International Literacy Association (ILA) Jerry Johns Outstanding Teacher Educator in Reading Award is a US\$1,000 award honoring an outstanding college or university teacher of reading methods or reading-related courses.

Sponsored by [Jerry Johns](#)

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

- Nominees must be currently affiliated with a college or university and engaged in teacher preparation in reading at the undergraduate and/or graduate level.
- Nominees must be knowledgeable professionals who know the field of reading and keep current in research and practice.
- Nominees must be innovative teachers who initiate and teach outstanding courses and programs in reading education.
- Nominees must be leaders in the field of reading who serve the profession and assume leadership positions in appropriate college, school, community, and/or professional organizations.
- Nominees must be role models/mentors who inspire and instruct students/teachers to their full potential and support their development.
- Nominees must be disseminators who research, publish, and promote effective practices beyond their own campus.

To be eligible, a candidate must be an ILA member in good standing and maintain active membership through **June 30, 2027**.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Nominations must be submitted through [an online application process](#). Supporting documentation is required and may be supplied in the body of the form, as a PDF attachment, or by linking to relevant material (such as a CV) provided that the source is reputable and up to date.

Candidates may self-nominate or be nominated by a colleague. Please note that **candidates who have been nominated by a colleague are no longer required to complete a separate application**.

Once submitted, nominations remain active for a total of three (3) years. Should a candidate be nominated more than once, each individual nomination will still expire three (3) years after it was first submitted. In order to maintain eligibility during the three years, an active ILA membership must also be

maintained. Note that nominees/applicants are encouraged to submit a new application if they have updated information they would like to share.

Note that recipients of the ILA Jerry Johns Outstanding Teacher Educator in Reading Award are not eligible for future consideration. Please review the list of [past honorees](#) before submitting a nomination.

SUBMISSION TIMELINE

Nominations are accepted on a rolling basis. To be considered for the 2026 Jerry Johns Outstanding Teacher Educator in Reading Award, **nomination forms must be completed and received no later than February 2, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. ET**. Applicants will be notified of the results before June 30, 2026.

SELECTION PROCESS

The ILA Jerry Johns Outstanding Teacher Educator in Reading Award Committee will review the completed applications and submitted supporting materials of all eligible candidates. Members of the ILA Jerry Johns Outstanding Teacher Educator in Reading Award Committee may also choose to put forth additional candidates for consideration during the discussion and deliberation phases. Please note that all applications—self-submitted, nominated, and internal—will be given equal consideration.

Decisions will be made based on the candidate's work and the impact of their teaching. Please note that the award will be made only in those years when the committee concludes there is an application of high quality that meets the criteria.

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