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press@reading.org

MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY AWARDED HIGHEST DISTINCTION IN ILA'S NATIONAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM

NEWARK, Del. (July 22, 2025) — The International Literacy Association (ILA) is pleased to announce that Millersville University's Reading/Literacy Specialist program has received the highest distinction awarded through ILA's National Recognition program.

Millersville joins a select group of institutions that, by invitation only, have completed a rigorous, multi-stage peer review process and demonstrated exemplary alignment with ILA's [Standards for the Preparation of Literacy Professionals](#). Fewer than 10 programs have earned the designation since its introduction in 2019.

"ILA's standards have been created with decades of research and expertise behind them—they are standards that we know will not waver and can be relied upon as highly effective goals to strive toward," said Aileen Hower, graduate coordinator for the Millersville program. "ILA is the North Star to our program and by receiving this recognition, we know that all of our hard work is aligned to the right information."

ILA National Recognition honors outstanding literacy preparation programs that equip candidates for roles as elementary/intermediate classroom teachers and reading/literacy specialists. Programs that receive this recognition demonstrate exemplary practice, adherence to rigorous standards, and a strong commitment to preparing educators to meet today's instructional challenges.

Discover how past recipients say ILA National Recognition has strengthened their programs—and learn how yours can join this prestigious list: literacyworldwide.org/natrec

About the International Literacy Association

The International Literacy Association (ILA) is a professional membership organization of literacy educators, researchers and experts spanning 128 countries. For nearly 70 years, ILA has set the standard for how literacy is defined, taught, and evaluated, connecting research and practice to improve the quality of literacy learning across the globe. Through its *Standards for the Preparation of Literacy Professionals*, ILA provides an evidence-based benchmark for the development and evaluation of literacy professional preparation programs. ILA collaborates with partners across the world to develop, gather, and disseminate high-quality resources, which include three peer-reviewed and edited journals—*The Reading Teacher*, *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy*, and *Reading Research Quarterly*. Learn more at literacyworldwide.org.

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