



Wisconsin State Reading Association

WSRA... providing leadership, advocacy, and expertise

Wisconsin State Reading Association Awards and Honors

Guidelines for the Pat Bricker Memorial Research Award

Purpose of the award:

Pat Bricker Awards are given annually by WSRA for classroom action research related to literacy. Requests may be up to \$2,000 depending on the nature of the study and the funding needed.

How to apply:

- ❖ Proposals must be received by November 1.
- ❖ Research should be completed by the end of the school year
- ❖ All proposals must follow the appropriate format. The application should include the application form, the proposal, a list of three to five references, and a budget. The proposal, references, and budget must total no more than four pages. A list of guidelines is attached.
- ❖ We want WSRA members to learn from your work! Recipients of Pat Bricker Memorial Awards must be willing to share their findings in one of the following ways:
 - An article in the *WSRA Journal*,
 - A report on the WSRA Website,
 - As a part of a column in the *WSRA Update*,
 - In a presentation at the WSRA convention. **Please note:** Submitted proposals for WSRA convention sessions are proposed online between February and May of the year prior to the convention year. In the spring, the Convention Chair and Convention Program Committee review proposals using criteria regarding a match for the convention message and theme.
- ❖ Any member of the WSRA is eligible to apply for a Pat Bricker Memorial Award. If more than one person is involved in conducting the study, only one of the applicants need be a WSRA member.

If you have any questions about developing a proposal, feel free to contact any member of the WSRA Research Committee.

Sincerely,

The WSRA Research Committee

WSRAresearch@gmail.com

Format Guidelines - RESEARCH PROPOSAL

These criteria should serve as a guide as you write the proposal and will be used to rate proposal. Please attach your list of three-five references/bibliography and budget. Total proposal, bibliography, and budget must total no more than four pages.

1) A clear research question

Does the proposal include a research question that can be explored in the classroom or school? Is the question important and useful to teachers?

2) Compelling rationale

Does the proposal include a clear rationale explaining why the study is needed? Is the rationale relevant?

3) A thorough review of research

Does the proposal include a review of 3 to 5 major, current, relevant research works that support the rationale and provide a theoretical framework for the proposed study? Are references included?

4) Appropriate methods

Participants: Is there a plan for obtaining consent for all participants, including consent of parents for minor students? Is relevant information about participants provided (such as number of students, range of ages, grade levels, performance levels, etc.)?

❖ Data Collection: What information will you use to explore your question? How will you observe and document the changes in your classroom?

❖ Data Analysis: How will you know if change has occurred? How will results be reported?

5) Budget Allocation

Is the itemized budget adequate for the scope of your project? Are the budget items aligned with the activities described above? Can the project realistically be carried out given the time/budget/methods resources stated throughout?

6) Overall Quality

Is the writing clear, concise, professional, and well organized?