



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 either **traditional** or **classroom action research** related to literacy. Proposals may request anywhere from **\$500 to \$2,000** depending on the nature of the study and the funding needed.

Application Procedure:

Depending on the quality of the proposals, up to ten awards will be funded. Proposals **must** be received **by November 1**.

Research **must** be completed by the end of the school year in which the award is received. For example, if a proposal is submitted by November 1, 2016, and an award is given at WSRA in February 2017, the research must be completed by the end of the 2016-2017 school year.

All proposals must follow the appropriate format. **The body of the proposal must be 500-1000 words (single-spaced). Attach your list of 3-5 references/bibliography, cover sheet, and budget. The proposal, bibliography, and budget must total no more than 4 pages. Proposals exceeding 4 pages will not be considered.** A rubric is provided. Follow it carefully since it reflects the criteria on which your proposal will be evaluated.

Recipients of Pat Bricker Memorial Awards must be willing to share their findings in one of the following ways: as an article in the **WSRA Journal**, as a report on the WSRA Website, as part of a column in **WSRA Update**, or in a presentation at the WSRA Conference. *We want our membership to have the benefit of your results!*

Any member of the Wisconsin State Reading Association is eligible to apply for a Pat Bricker Memorial Award. If more than one person is involved in conducting the study, **at least one of the applicants must be a WSRA member**. This could provide an excellent opportunity for a reading specialist to develop a classroom action study with content teachers or other individuals in a school on a topic related to reading.

Think about gathering some data on what is happening in your classroom or in your school. For example, is there a teaching strategy you would like to try in your class? Are there some teaching materials that you would like to test? You might look at what happens to your programs when you change approaches or materials.

Consider developing a classroom action study and applying for a Pat Bricker Memorial Award. 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

This rubric will serve as a guide as you write the proposal and will be used to rate proposal.

The body of the proposal must be 500-1000 words (single-spaced). Attach your list of 3-5 references/bibliography and budget. Total proposal, bibliography, and budget must total no more than 4 pages. Proposals exceeding 4 pages will not be considered.

1) A clear research question

Does the proposal begin with a question? Is the question important? Are terms well defined?

Does the applicant provide a rationale explaining why the study is needed?

Highest Quality	Average Quality	Poor Quality	Item Not Addressed
3	2	1	0

2) A review of research is included.

Does the proposal include a rationale explaining why the study is needed? Does it 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 (bibliography) attached?

Highest Quality	Average Quality	Poor Quality	Item Not Addressed
3	2	1	0

3) Methods are appropriate:

Methods of subject selection are appropriate.

Have consent forms been obtained from parents? Is relevant information about subjects provided, such as # of students, the range of ages, grade levels, performance levels, etc., if appropriate? Is there a control group? (All of this can be done in 1-2 sentences.)

Highest Quality	Average Quality	Poor Quality	Item Not Addressed
3	2	1	0

Methods of data collection are appropriate:

How will the variables be observed and documented? How well do the assessment methods measure what the researcher is attempting to measure? Are there qualitative AND quantitative measures (if appropriate) or is a single measure sufficient?

Highest Quality	Average Quality	Poor Quality	Item Not Addressed
3	2	1	0

Data Analysis

Will the results be analyzed in a way that is consistent with data? How will results be reported (statistically, qualitatively)? Can the research be related or replicated?

Highest Quality	Average Quality	Poor Quality	Item Not Addressed
3	2	1	0

4) Feasibility/Budget Allocation

Is the itemized budget adequate and have necessary resources been considered? Do the budget items correspond to the expenditures involved in the collection and analysis of the data? Can the project realistically be carried out given the time/budget/methods resources stated throughout?

Highest Quality	Average Quality	Poor Quality	Item Not Addressed
3	2	1	0

5) Overall Quality

Is the writing clear, concise, carefully edited?

Highest Quality	Average Quality	Poor Quality	Item Not Addressed
3	2	1	0

TOTAL