



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**  
**STRIVING READERS**

Memo

To: NALC members

Re: Solicitation of Peer Reviewers for Striving Readers competition

Introduction: The Striving Readers program is currently holding a competition for adolescent literacy grants. In the April 8 Federal Notice of Proposed Priorities, we proposed that applicants create adolescent literacy programs that serve struggling adolescent readers and that they support an evaluation of the program that includes a randomized control trial (RCT). Eligible applicants would be State Education Agencies. We are currently accepting public comment on our proposal.

To ensure that applications are reviewed by the highest quality peer reviewers, we are soliciting help from the adolescent literacy field and from evaluators with school program evaluation experience. We need reviewers with expertise in implementing, evaluating, supervising, etc. adolescent literacy programs. We also need reviewers who are research methodological experts and can help us review applications that include evaluation plans with RCTs.

The review will take place for four days during the first or second week of August and will be held at a hotel in DC. Reviewers will receive honoraria and per diem for their work. Resumes are due to [www.StrivingReaders@ed.gov](mailto:www.StrivingReaders@ed.gov) by May 20, 2009.

Resume Guidance

Peer Reviewers should have experience and expertise in some or all of the following:

- Implementing, designing, researching, supervising, providing professional development, or instructing in or about adolescent literacy programs
- Conducting and managing program evaluations that involve issues of design and implementation of random assignment methodology preferably in schools; experience and skill in conducting scientifically based research on adolescent literacy

Conflict of Interest

Some of you who are interested in reviewing may have a conflict of interest that disqualifies you. Please do not submit a resume for consideration if you:

- Helped develop an application for an agency that is submitting that application for review
- Would benefit from the funding of an application that is being submitted (you and your family are included in this conflict of interest item)

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