

**Make Your Reading Council “A Sport for All Seasons”
Iowa Merit Council**

All reading councils in Iowa are invited to apply for the Iowa Merit Council Award that is given each year during the annual conference for the Iowa Reading Association. A stipend of \$100 is given to each successful council for use within the group. A banquet ticket is also given to the local council president (or other officer) to attend the Awards Banquet to receive the Merit Council check at the state reading conference.

Each council must complete six required items and at least 10 optional items within four categories:

- Membership Development
- Local Council Programs and Activities
- Support of the Iowa Reading Association
- Support of the International Literacy Association

The checklist for all of these items can be found online at iowareading.org. All materials submitted need to be marked with the category and item number, then placed in a folder or notebook and sent to Renae Wilkening on or before May 1, 2020.

Optional: Councils may submit their information electronically, rather than a folder/notebook.

All submissions will be returned at the Leadership Conference of 2020.

Congratulations to the following seven councils who reached Merit Status for 2018-2019:

- Eastern Iowa Reading Council
- Hardy Reading Council
- Midlands Reading Council
- Northeast Iowa Reading Council
- READ Reading Council
- Three Rivers Reading Council
- Boone Story Reading Council

If any council has any questions, please contact: Renae Wilkening, Merit Council Committee Chair, at renaewilkening@cox.net, 10055 Centennial Rd. LaVista NE 68128, 402-210-6488.