

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. 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 Heidi Stangl or Wendy Matson on or before May 1, 2025.

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

All submissions will be returned at the Leadership Conference of 2025.

Congratulations to the following three councils who reached Merit Status for 2023-2024:

- Eastern Iowa Reading Council
- Hardy Reading Council
- Midland of Iowa Reading Council

If any council has questions, please contact the Merit Council Committee Co-Chairs:

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