

## **IDA MSI GRANT PROGRAM: Contribution of Multisensory Components to Structured-Language Reading Instruction**

### **Grant Award**

The International Dyslexia Association (IDA) announces a competitive grant program to stimulate scientific investigation of the contribution of multisensory components in structured-language reading instruction—particularly for students at risk for academic failure or underachievement, such as those with dyslexia. The Grant Program will provide up to \$20,000 for one year for new educational, neuroscience, cognitive science, or other research projects with this focus. The funding period begins **September 1, 2010**.

### **Proposal Deadline: May 1, 2010.**

The main selection criteria for awards are (a) scientific rigor, and (b) potential to advance understanding of the value of multisensory elements in effective reading instruction (i.e., evidence-based instruction that explicitly addresses multiple components of oral and written language in an integrated, systematic, and cumulative manner.)

This grant program will *not* fund studies that explicitly investigate the multisensory instructional (MSI) methods of a particular program or approach, commercial or otherwise. Rather, we seek to fund studies that investigate how multisensory components (e.g., visual, auditory, kinesthetic, tactile) in various contexts and combinations do or do not enhance the learning of reading-related skills in various learner populations, including those with dyslexia.

### **Specific Criteria for Selection**

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- I. Faculty or affiliates (e.g. graduate students or clinicians) at universities, educational, medical, and other non-profit research institutions are eligible. The grant will be made to the principal investigator through his or her academic institution.
- II. Any discipline is eligible.
- III. International submissions are welcome.
- IV. Support will be limited to faculty or affiliates who are well trained in research methods and will bring creative approaches to issues relevant to reading instruction. Applicants (or their mentors) should demonstrate the ability to conduct sophisticated research by presenting a record of research publications from peer-reviewed journals. Proposals for pilot work as part of a larger project or towards a larger future project are welcome.
- V. An institutional setting conducive to the investigator's plan of research should be available.

### **The Selection Process**

Complete grant applications with all supporting documents must be received by **May 1, 2010**. Awards will be announced by **August 1, 2010**. Funds will be made available to successful applicants **September 1, 2010**.

At the end of the grant period, the awardee is required to submit to The International Dyslexia Association a written report of the results of the studies including any published papers. A brief summary (not to exceed one page—double spaced) of the results in lay terms will also be required for publication on the IDA Web Site, and may be published in the IDA periodical, *Perspectives*. A manuscript may be requested for

consideration for publication in the *Annals of Dyslexia* (IDA's journal published semi-annually) although a manuscript is not mandatory. IDA may invite you to submit a proposal for consideration to present at the annual IDA International Conference in the Fall--submission is not mandatory.

### **Proposal Format**

- I. Cover page: Include title of project, name, address, and contact information for primary and co-investigators, and indicate that the proposal is for the MSI Research Grant.
- II. Abstract: Summarize proposed research (one page).
- III. Detailed project description
  - a) Describe the proposed research (in 10 single-spaced pages or less), including:
    1. An introduction: consisting of a comprehensive literature review, rationale, and objectives.
    2. A research plan, including the design of experiments, specific methods, sample size justification, and statistical analyses.
    3. Discussion, interpretation, and relevance of potential findings.
  - b) Provide a time line, including approximate completion dates for the critical methodological stages of the proposed study.
  - c) Provide the budget and budget justification for the one year of support that includes supplies, small equipment, and services (e.g., MRI), etc. (The grant award cannot be used for major equipment or for travel or salary support for the Primary Investigator or other Co-Investigators. Salary support can be used for a research assistant, consultants, etc. No indirect costs will be paid.)
  - d) List all other sources of support either secured or being sought for this project. If this research activity or related projects are currently being supported from other sources, list the sources for such finding, title(s) of projects, grant number(s), time periods of funding, and total funding/year. Please specify how the projects overlap and how they differ.
  - e) List other sources of support for research undertaken by the applicant or in which he or she participates (pending or current). Provide complete titles and grant numbers of all grants as well as total award, yearly award, inclusive funding dates, the role of the applicant, and percent of time devoted to each grant by the applicant.
  - f) If items d and e above do not apply, please indicate that as well.
  - g) Describe facilities available.
- IV. Attachments
  - a) Curriculum vitae.
  - b) Official letter from the applicant's organization attesting to their support of the project. If applicable, include evidence of the institution's 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.
  - c) Detailed statement of how the proposed research will comply with the accepted standards for the use and care of human research subjects. Further, the signature of the appropriate official of the sponsoring institution is required.
  - d) Graduate Students should include a letter of reference from their supervising/advising professor. At the minimum, this letter should include a statement that the students' project is scientifically sound and whether or not it is part of the student's thesis or dissertation work.

### **Acknowledgements**

Acknowledgement of the assistance of **The International Dyslexia Association** and the **Funding Coalition of the Multisensory Instruction Research Initiative** should be made in any presentations or publications resulting from these grants.

## **Submission Requirements**

Proposals must reach the IDA office by **May 1, 2010**. Please send an electronic version of the proposal via email as an attachment (MS WORD format) to the address listed below. Also, send one (1) hard copy of the proposal by mail to:

Mailing Address:	MSI Research Grant Award	Email address: dnies@interdys.org
	The International Dyslexia Association	Contact: Diane Nies
	40 York Road, 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor	(410) 296-0232, ext. 408
	Baltimore, MD 21204-5202	

Note: The International Dyslexia Association will only reveal the contents of these proposals to the reviewers who are appointed by the MSI Research Initiative Chair. We do not provide rationale for rejection to unsuccessful applicants. Incomplete applications and/or applications that are not written according to the specification detailed above will not be considered for review.