UNESCO International Literacy Prizes

The UNESCO International Literacy Prizes are:

- UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize
  Supporting literacy in multilingual contexts
- UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy
  Supporting literacy in rural areas

Every biennium, the United Nations Literacy Decade (UNLD 2003-2012), focuses on a specific theme:

2003-2004  Literacy and Gender
2005-2006  Literacy and Sustainable Development
2007-2008  Literacy and Health
2009-2010  Literacy and Empowerment
2011-2012  Literacy and Peace

Candidatures should take into account the theme of the UNLD while also considering the specificity of each Prize.

Promoting excellence and innovation for a literate world

Every year, the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes reward excellence and innovation in the field of literacy throughout the world. By honouring the work of institutions, organizations and individuals through these Prizes, UNESCO seeks to support effective literacy practices and encourages the promotion of dynamic literate societies.
Call for candidatures

Every year, UNESCO invites Member States and International Non-Governmental Organizations* maintaining official relations with the Organization to solicits and submit candidatures to the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes.

Who can apply

Institutions, organizations or individuals promoting literacy through effective and innovative programmes or projects.

How to apply

The candidatures must be submitted to the Director-General of UNESCO either by Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions for UNESCO, or by International Non-Governmental Organizations maintaining official relations with UNESCO. Each nomination must be accompanied by a written recommendation. A self-nomination cannot be considered.

Each Government or International NGO is entitled to nominate only two candidates per year.

The files must be in English or French only.

Selection process

The selection of prizewinners is made by an International Jury appointed by UNESCO’s Director-General which meets in Paris once a year. The Prize is normally awarded at an official ceremony held for that purpose at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on the occasion of International Literacy Day (8 September).

* The list of International Non-Governmental Organizations maintaining official relations with UNESCO is available at http://erc.unesco.org/ong

The application process

The application will include:

1. The questionnaire duly completed.
2. The written recommendation by the Government of a Member State or by an International Non-governmental Organization maintaining official relations with UNESCO.
3. Accompanying supportive material.

The submissions should reach the secretariat either electronically or via regular mail. Candidates are encouraged to download the questionnaire from the UNESCO web site, complete it and send it electronically to the following e-mail:
literacyprizes@unesco.org

To download the questionnaire, go to:
www.unesco.org/en/literacy/literacy-prizes/

Alternatively, candidates can refer to the questionnaire attached to this guide.

The accompanying supportive material should be sent by regular mail to the following address:

Literacy Prizes Secretariat
Division of Basic Education
UNESCO Education Sector
7, place de Fontenoy,
75 352 PARIS 07 SP, France

Tel.: + 33 1 45 68 17 95 / 13 12
Fax: + 33 1 45 68 56 26 / 27

E-mail: literacyprizes@unesco.org

DEADLINE FOR RECEPTION OF APPLICATIONS:
15 JUNE 2010

Learn more:
www.unesco.org/en/literacy/literacy-prizes/