

## ITAG RESEARCH GRANTS

The Iowa Talented and Gifted Association seeks to promote research about talented and gifted students and/or related activities in the state of Iowa. Any Iowa resident and/or student enrolled in an Iowa high school, college, or university is eligible to apply. Research should be deemed appropriate if it is useful to the furthering of talented and gifted education in Iowa.

*In the High School Division*, students may submit research in any area of interest or study. The research must have been initiated while the applicant was enrolled in a state-approved public or private high school.

*In the Classroom Teacher Division*, teachers from state-approved public or private schools are encouraged to submit research conducted in the classroom or community. Action research is encouraged. (See description below)

*In the Advanced Degree Division*, Iowa residents with or without school affiliations may apply. Out-of-state residents must be enrolled in an Iowa post-secondary school, college or university. There are no age restrictions.

Research must be submitted on the application blank which can be found on the ITAG web page, a newsletter, or requested from the ITAG office. The application consists of:

- (1) Title of Research
- (2) Abstract of research
- (3) Identification of the problem
- (4) Review of the literature
- (5) Research method(s) used
- (6) Significant findings or outcomes
- (7) Conclusions
- (8) Instructions for attachments
- (9) Assurance statement and signature

Complete applications must be sent by first class mail. At the August board meeting, the Educator Outreach committee will screen applications and select from one to three recipients in each division. They will be invited to present their research at the next ITAG Conference in October. Finalists in the High School Division will be presented a \$50 award and a framed certificate of recognition. The Classroom Teacher and Advanced Degree Division recipients will receive a recognition plaque and a cash award of \$100 and \$200 respectively. All awards, plaques, and certificates will be presented at the ITAG conference.

The ITAG Board hopes this activity will encourage research in the field of talented and gifted education in the Advanced and Classroom Divisions, support high school students in their research endeavors, and provide a showcase for all groups.

**Application Deadline: Friday, August 1, 2008**

**Applications are available from:**

**Diane Pratt**

**1851 Ninth Ave. No., Fort Dodge, IA 50501**

**Phone: (515) 955-8620 FAX: 515-576-0501**

**Email: [dpratt@fort-dodge.k12.ia.us](mailto:dpratt@fort-dodge.k12.ia.us)**

**Or call the ITAG office at 515-225-2323, email [itag@assoc-serv.com](mailto:itag@assoc-serv.com)**

*ACTION RESEARCH explores the unity between educational research and practice.*

According to one definition, action research is inquiry-based research conducted by teachers that follows a process of examining existing practices, implementing new practices, and evaluating the results, leading to an improvement cycle that benefits both students and teachers. It can also be called Practitioner Research, Teacher Research, Site-based Research, or Action Science. It is a systematic inquiry designed to yield practical results capable of improving a specific aspect of practice and made public to enable scrutiny.

ITAG wants to encourage EACH OF YOU to develop what you do and what you practice into research. As you study what is working and what is not and recognize which strategies lead to greater student achievement or success, reflect and identify the reasons for the positive results. Contribute to a shared knowledge base on gifted and talented learners in Iowa.