

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 2017 GLR Honors and Recognition: Pacesetter Honors, Council of Champions and Bright Spots

The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading encourages GLR Network communities to apply for recognition through the **2017 GLR Honors and Recognition**.

#### A. Pacesetter Honors

Each year since the inception of the Campaign, GLR Network communities are honored as “Pacesetters” for demonstrating that progress is possible and identifying the leading edge of innovation and improvement for the GLR Network. Over the years, the GLR Campaign has recognized a total of 85 communities as Pacesetters, 48 of which have received recognition multiple times. Each year, the criteria get more challenging to meet and reflect the shared responsibility for driving with data and making measurable progress. Using co-developed criteria and a community-driven self-nomination and review process, the GLR Campaign identifies communities that are truly exemplary and thus warrant the designation “GLR Campaign Pacesetter.”

Communities recognized as 2017 Pacesetters will be those that meet either or both of the following criteria:

1. Demonstrate promise and/or progress in **alignment and/or collaboration** for impact on early school success in one or more of the following areas:

- across the early grades and early years
- between STEM and literacy (reading and math)
- between and among exemplary programs
- between and among public agencies and systems
- between and among the private, public and social sectors
- between and among federal, state and local governments and agencies
- with a focus on more vulnerable populations (dual language learners; system-involved children; children with learning differences, disabilities and attention issues)

2. Demonstrate **measurable progress and/or promising trend lines** toward one or more of the following:

- achieving population-level improvements in school readiness, school attendance and summer learning
- increasing the number and percentage of low-income children reading on grade level districtwide
- assuring community-wide sustainability of the civic action and advocacy agenda

- integrating the two key determinants of early school success — parents' success and healthy child development

## **B. Council of Champions**

Each GLR community is encouraged to nominate 3–5 individuals to be recognized as members of the GLR Council of Champions for their exemplary service in any of the following roles:

1. Volunteers (i.e., reading tutors, mentors, parent organizers and/or others working directly with children)
2. Members of local sponsoring coalitions, funders, policymakers or elected officials
3. Leaders of partner organizations or public agencies
4. Other individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the success of your campaign

## **C. Bright Spots**

Bright Spots are designed to enable communities to “steal shamelessly and share seamlessly” with colleagues across the country who are generating solutions to similar challenges. This year’s Bright Spots will focus broadly on highlighting innovative approaches and promising strategies for achieving bigger outcomes, larger impact and more sustainable scale.

## **QUESTIONS**

1. How do I apply for 2017 GLR Honors and Recognition for my community?

*This year's GLR Honors and Recognition application process includes the application for Pacesetter Honors, the nomination for Council of Champion submissions and Bright Spot submissions. Communities are encouraged to submit for any or all of these types of recognition through the online portal at this web address: <https://app.wizehive.com/apps/GLR2017honors>.*

*To apply, you should complete the following specific steps:*

- a. *Create an account for your community on the following website:*

<https://app.wizehive.com/apps/GLR2017honors>

- b. *Click on the "Select Applications" tab. You will be taken to a tab called "Step 1" that is entitled, "2017 GLR Honors Self-Nomination Form." Provide the requested information. Note you may save your application at any point and return to it later by clicking on the "Save Draft" button at the bottom of the page.*

c. Go the next tab, "Pacesetter Honors" and provide the requested information. You may also upload any related communications products you would like to have considered for showcase in the GLR Campaign's 2018 Communications Expo. Valid file extensions include \*.pdf, \*.doc, .docx, \*.xlsx, \*.xls, \*.jpg, \*.png, \*.gif, \*.mp4, \*.mov, \*.flv and \*.mp3. Note you may save your application at any point and return to it later by clicking on the "Save Draft" button at the bottom of the page.

d. Go to the next tab, "Council of Champions" and provide the requested information. Note you may save your application at any point and return to it later by clicking on the "Save Draft" button at the bottom of the page.

e. Go to the next tab, "Bright Spots" and provide the requested information. You may also upload any related communications products you would like to have considered for showcase in the GLR Campaign's 2018 Communications Expo. Valid file extensions include \*.pdf, \*.doc, .docx, \*.xlsx, \*.xls, \*.jpg, \*.png, \*.gif, \*.mp4, \*.mov, \*.flv and \*.mp3. Note you may save your application at any point and return to it later by clicking on the "Save Draft" button at the bottom of the page.

f. Click on the "Review" tab. Review your application for accuracy and then if you are satisfied, press the "Submit" button to submit your application to the GLR Campaign.

To assist you in drafting your response, download a [Word version of the submission portal](#). It has all the same questions as the portal. Then, you can copy/paste into the online form to submit your self-nomination.

2. This year's Pacesetter criteria look challenging and daunting. I'm not sure that we've done enough to submit.

*The first Pacesetter criteria asks to demonstrate **promise and/or progress in alignment and/or collaboration**. We are looking for promising strategies that have a good chance of succeeding. We understand that many communities are in process with this work and hope communities that feel they are doing promising work will submit.*

3. We are just getting started and don't feel we are ready to submit for Pacesetter Honors. Is it worth it for us to complete the other sections?

*Yes! Every community has Champions in their community who have helped start the work of third-grade reading proficiency. Similarly, all communities have Bright Spots. Some communities could talk about an innovative way they started their coalition or wrote their Community*

*Solutions Action Plan (CSAP). We hope that all communities in the Network will submit Bright Spots and nominate Champions.*

4. Who is eligible to apply for 2017 GLR Honors and Recognition?

*Eligibility to apply is open to any community that has filed a CSAP any time by December 31, 2017, and is a member of the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading Network of communities.*

5. Can our community apply for 2017 Pacesetter Honors, Council of Champions and Bright Spot?

*Yes; in fact, you are encouraged to do so!*

6. Must my community apply for all three sections of the application (2017 Pacesetter Honors, Council of Champions submission and Bright Spot submission)?

*No. Although we encourage a community to complete of much as the application as possible, you need only complete the sections of the online application that make sense for your community. Each section will be considered separately. Submitting in one section will not give your community a better chance in other sections.*

7. How many individuals can we nominate for the Council of Champions?

*We encourage every community to nominate 3-5 people. You can nominate fewer than three but not more than five.*

8. Will submitting communications products strengthen my chance of being recognized with Pacesetter Honors?

*No, this is an optional step that will not impact the assessment of your Pacesetter self-nomination.*

9. Can we submit more than one Bright Spot?

*Not at this time. We are encouraging communities to file the story they would most like to tell about their progress/achievements/challenges and include that as their one Bright Spot submission.*

10. When are 2017 GLR Honors and Recognition applications due?

*Please file your self-nomination via the online portal by Feb. 16, 2018.*

11. May a state apply for 2017 GLR Honors and Recognition?

*Yes, states can nominate Champions and submit a Bright Spot.*

12. When will the 2017 Pacesetter Honorees and new Council of Champion members be announced? When will the Bright Spots be shared?

*We anticipate announcing the 2017 Pacesetter Honorees by March 31 and will be welcoming new Council of Champion members and sharing Bright Spots in the lead-up to GLR Week in Philadelphia, PA, July 23-27, 2018.*

13. How many 2017 Pacesetter Honorees will be recognized? Am I competing with other communities for a predetermined number of awards?

*There is no pre-specified number of 2017 Pacesetter Honorees that will be recognized. You are therefore not in competition, as such, with other communities for a predetermined number of slots. The determination of recommendations for Pacesetter Honors is solely at the discretion of the application review panel.*

14. Is this the only chance to submit for the Communications Expo?

*No, there are two ways to submit for the Communications Expo. The first is to submit here with your Pacesetter and/or Bright Spots self-nomination. The second is through the portal used last year for the Communications Expo, which will be opened again once the self-nomination process for 2017 GLR Honors and Recognition is closed.*

15. Some of the Pacesetter criteria mention community-wide or population-level progress. How does the GLR Campaign define community-wide, population-level progress for low-income children?

*Communities can demonstrate community-wide, population-level progress in any of the following ways: (a) on the basis of the unit of change or catchment area you have defined for your grade-level reading initiative (e.g., if your initiative is countywide, your data would reflect progress on a countywide indicator); or (b) on the basis of an entire neighborhood or system in a particular city (e.g., you could cite progress for all children in Head Start or children from WIC families).*