Author Guidelines

Research to Practice Documents

Research to Practice (R2P) documents provide concise, current, evidence-based information about critical areas of interest to those in the field of learning disabilities. Current R2P documents are available for viewing and download on the CLD website: http://www.council-for-learning-disabilities.org

Types of R2P Documents

There are two primary formats for these documents: (1) an empirical review of a specific evidence-based best practice or (2) guidelines for implementation of a specific evidence-based best practice. Any R2P document that is submitted must be of high interest to the field and use recent sources of evidence (i.e., citations that have been published within the last five years). In addition, all R2P documents must focus on the construct of learning disabilities and/or students with learning disabilities.

Document Solicitation

Individuals, and particularly CLD members, are encouraged to keep up to date on documents in the R2P Corner and may submit new manuscripts for consideration at any time. Prior to preparing documents, please contact the Research Committee Chair (Kelli Cummings, kellic@umd.edu) to determine if the topic is appropriate for publication, would not duplicate efforts on other documents in process, and would meet the CLD goals and requirements.

In addition to the ongoing call for papers, there may occasionally be special calls for manuscript topics. Manuscripts submitted under special calls will also need to be vetted both prior to authoring and once submitted.

Document Preparation

All R2P documents should be submitted electronically and adhere to the formatting guidelines specified in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA; 6th edition). Authors should pay particular attention to guidelines for nonsexist language, avoiding ethnic bias, and disabilities.

1. Documents should be double-spaced and may range in length from three to 10 pages including references.
2. The tone must be professional but accessible by persons outside the field of education (e.g., parents of students with disabilities). The tone should be less formal than a scientific article.
3. Place all figures and tables at the end of the paper.
4. Use references only as needed; papers should not be citation dense particularly if they are inaccessible to persons outside a university library system.
5. Concrete examples are encouraged.
6. Lists of additional resources, websites, videos, etc., are encouraged.

R2P documents are peer-reviewed by the CLD Research Committee and outside reviewers as appropriate. There is no guarantee that submissions will be approved.

Artwork and Permissions

Figures must be provided as production ready. If figures, art, or extensive quotes are taken directly—or adapted only in minor ways—from another source, it is the author's responsibility to obtain written permission from the copyright holder and pay any necessary fees.

Submission

Authors should submit a blinded copy of the document along with a separate title page to the Research Committee Chair. Blinded copies will be sent to at least three peer reviewers whose feedback and recommendations will be returned to the author along with a final publication decision. Please note that even if the topic and manuscript plan are initially approved, there is no guarantee that submissions will be approved and published.