

School Year 2020-2021

TO: English Department Chair or Instructor, AVID Coordinator and to whom it may concern

FROM: Ninetta Papadomichelaki
Director of Academic Outreach, Inland Area Writing Project

RE: Inland Area Writing Project: **High School Outreach Program**
College Reading and Writing Readiness through the lens of the Analytical Writing Placement Exam

Over the past twenty-seven years, the Inland Area Writing Project (IAWP) has successfully operated its High School Outreach Program. The goal is to help schools and instructors prepare students for the rigors of academic reading and writing by using the Analytical Writing Placement Examination (AWPE), which the University of California has been administering to entering freshmen since 1987.

In this program, high school juniors take a practice Analytical Writing Placement Examination which is then assessed analytically by University of California professionals teaching college-level composition courses. Students receive personalized analytical feedback on their essay as well as individualized recommendations for further improvement. Students and instructors also gain access to a recorded presentation with information about the AWPE as well as with suggestions and strategies for meeting college-level expectations for reading and writing competence based on the specific practice exam.

The High School Outreach experience can be highly beneficial to students, teachers, and university instructors alike, particularly when we work with high-school juniors. **It is important to note that the focus of this program is not test preparation.** We concentrate our effort on high-school juniors so that they will have a full year of study and practice before attending a college writing course or taking actual placement tests. Furthermore, this program helps students improve their reading and writing skills as well as do better on timed writings in their high school classes.

In 2021 our High School Outreach Program will be different than years past due to safety considerations for the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, everything will be organized based on standards of highest quality of service to the students and teachers of our area.

A. The following are the characteristics of the 2021 HSO program:

- The cost of service per student will be **\$15.00**: this fee covers the evaluation of one student essay with analytical feedback and recommendations for improvement provided by a UCR professional with experience in teaching college-level composition courses.
- In addition to the personalized feedback and recommendations, participating students will also gain access to a video presentation with information about the following: a) reading and writing standards and expectations at the university level; b) modeling activities and strategies for composing a response essay through the lens of the AWPE.

B. These are the simple steps toward registering your individual students in the 2021 HSO program:

1. Each teacher/coordinator needs to read the document titled “HSO Checklist for Teachers/Coordinators”.
2. Each teacher/coordinator needs to submit one online registration form for the students they would like to register. [Registration link here:](#)

The registration must be submitted by either one of the following dates:

REGISTRATION DEADLINE If you registered before/ by:	ESSAY SUBMISSION DEADLINE Submit student essays before/by:	ESSAYS RETURN DAY DEADLINE We will return essays to you before/by:
January 31st	February 20th	March 20th
March 1st	March 22nd	April 22nd
April 1st	April 22nd	May 22nd

3. Each teacher/coordinator needs to provide our office with a district contact person and/or purchase order number. There is a field about this in the registration form. The IAWP office will send the district the information for processing payment. **If our office does not receive this information and/or purchase order number by the deadline date, we will not be able to provide our services.**
4. The teacher/coordinator will need to deploy the writing prompt and directions to students, gather the student responses (essays), and upload them as google. docs or word documents to a file shared with our office. Once the essays are evaluated, the teacher will be able to distribute them to the students and give them access to the recorded presentation by the Director of Academic Outreach for the Inland Area Writing Project.

Please register **as soon as possible**. This will enable us to send the teachers/coordinators all necessary materials, so they can administer the exam to students.

For further information, please review the AWPE brochure (attached) and/or contact our office at iawp@ucr.edu.

We look forward to a new or continuing rewarding partnership!