

YALSA's Revised Social Media Policy FAQ

YALSA's Board of Directors voted to make a change to the Social Media policy that, beginning Feb. 1, 2015, prohibits award committee members from publicly reviewing, writing, blogging, etc. about titles that are eligible for the particular committee on which they're serving. An FAQ is provided below to address common questions.

What committees are impacted by this change?

Only YALSA's six award committees are impacted by this policy change: Alex, Edwards, Morris, Nonfiction, Odyssey and Printz.

Why has this policy changed?

YALSA members have served with the highest level of honesty and integrity on award committees. This change works to ensure there can be no question as to the integrity of the awards and the committee members, and holds the process above reproach or suspicion.

This change also prevents outside third parties, who may not know award committee members or their professional qualifications, from raising questions of ethics or impartiality of the award committee's decision.

What does this mean for reviewers?

Members serving on an award committee may not publish reviews of titles that are eligible for their particular committee's award during their term of service in professional journals (print and/or electronic) or other professional and personal outlets. This is because committee affiliation is public information, and any published reviews attributed to specific award committee members may undermine the confidentiality of discussions, or the impartiality of an award committee member. Any outstanding reviews should be completed, submitted, and published before the comm

