**Journal of At-Risk Issues (JARI)**

**Quantitative Manuscript Format**

**Submitted the following documents to Greg Hickman, Editor JARI at** **greg.hickman@dropoutprevention.org****:**

* Cover page with no names and/or affiliations and Abstract
* Manuscript
* Appendices, Tables, Figures, Graphs

**Cover Page with Abstract**

* Title of Study
* No author names and affiliations
* Follow APA 6th Edition guidelines for Abstract - See p. 26 APA Manual
* 150 Word limit to include:
	+ Problem under investigation, in one sentence if possible
	+ Participants, specifying pertinent characteristics such as age, sex, ethnicity, etc.
	+ Essential features of study methodologically
	+ Basic findings, including size effects, significance, confidence intervals, and/or p values
	+ Conclusions and the implications

**Manuscript**

* Introduction
	+ 1 ½ to 2 pages introducing the topic of study and problem grounded in research that supports the justification and need for study
	+ Support all claims of knowledge, understanding, and content with sources. Preferably empirical research sources
	+ A gap/problem statement that ends the introduction and identifies the gap in the research literature that addresses a documented problem cited from the research literature
	+ Here is a template to follow to end your introduction - Although the aforementioned research regarding (**insert your topic**) illuminates important findings, I have found no research that has examined (**insert your gap that you have not found to be researched).** Given such, further research is warranted that could examine (**insert gap briefly**) in an effort to address the documented **problem (insert documented and cited problem** this gap will address)
* Purpose Statement
	+ Address the purpose of study to align with the gap and problem
	+ Identify the method and design in your purpose statement
	+ Example – The purpose of this quantitative quasi-experimental design study is to examine the differential developmental pathways of high school graduates and dropouts across each grade level of their academic tenure and across all educational, behavioral, and familial variables in an effort to identify where in time and which variables of study high school dropouts begin to look different than high school graduates
* Research Question/hypotheses
	+ Address research question that only align with purpose of study
	+ Avoid crafting yes/no research questions
	+ Address the Null and Alternative hypotheses after your research question with statistical symbols indicating direct of study. Example:

Ho: µ1=µ2 There are no differences between ACT scores between high school dropouts and graduates

H1: µ1≠µ2 There are differences between ACT scores between high school dropout and certificates

* Methods
	+ Method and design and why appropriate for study
	+ Procedures of study
	+ Sampling Strategy
	+ Sample size based on sample size calculation
	+ Independent Variable – how defined and specific measure being used and how the measure is scored, scaled, and how reliability and validity were established
	+ Dependent Variable– how defined and specific measure being used and how the measure is scored, scaled, and how reliability and validity were established
	+ Analysis – specific analysis being used and why appropriate based on purpose and research question
	+ Example analyses include multiple regression, ANOVA, ANCOVA, Pearson’s r, etc.
	+ Ethical Considerations such as confidentiality, anonymity, consent forms, debriefing, etc.
* Results
	+ Briefly remind reader of the research questions/ hypotheses
	+ Provide any demographic/descriptive statistics for your sample
	+ Answer your research questions/hypotheses to include statistical test data and p values, reject or fail to reject null hypothesis, and briefly explain the meaning of the test result
* Discussion
	+ Interpretation of results
	+ Connect results back to research literature
	+ Limitations of study
	+ Significance of study
	+ Future implications of research
	+ Conclusions
* References
	+ Follow APA 6th Edition guidelines
	+ See p. 49-51 APA Manual

**Appendices, Tables, Figures, Graphs**

* Follow APA 6th Edition guidelines