



# BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

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## Undergraduate Travel Awards: Enhancing Diversity at the Botanical Society of America Conferences

The PLANTS program, funded by the National Science Foundation and Botanical Society of America, provides travel awards to bring talented and diverse undergraduates to the BOTANY 2019 meeting on **July 27-31, 2019, in Tucson, Arizona**. We welcome applications from all students interested in plants, but especially encourage applications from students attending tribal colleges, community colleges, and minority-serving institutions in the area.

**Why BOTANY 2019?** The annual Botany Conference is a meeting of over a thousand plant scientists, including both professionals and students, interested in research and/or application of the plant sciences. The conference encompasses the broad scope of botanical study, including areas such as systematics, conservation, ecology, evolution, physiology, genetics, development, paleobotany, and economic botany. Workshops cover topics as diverse as genomics, conservation assessments, teaching science, applying to grad school, and different types of science and technology careers. An overview of the scientific conference is available at: [www.botanyconference.org](http://www.botanyconference.org)

**Why PLANTS?** The PLANTS program (**Preparing Leaders and Nurturing Tomorrow's Scientists: Increasing the diversity of plant scientists**) will fund at least 14 undergraduates from throughout the US and Puerto Rico to attend the BOTANY 2019 meeting, receive mentoring from graduate students, postdocs and faculty, attend scientific sessions, and participate in networking events including the Diversity Lunch and career-oriented activities. The program covers the normal costs of travel, registration, food and accommodation at the meeting.

**APPLICATIONS:** Applications are accepted with a target date of June 10, 2019, with a rolling review after that date until all available slots have been filled. Apply as soon as possible at

<https://cms.botany.org/home/awards/travel-awards-for-students/plants-grants.html>

Applications include completion of an online form providing your statement of interest, a letter of recommendation, and an unofficial transcript. Applications are welcome from all undergraduates who have an interest in the plant sciences; the admissions goal is to create a diverse pool of students at the BOTANY meetings. We encourage you to review the online form thoroughly before filling it out. Please have a letter of recommendation and unofficial transcripts sent directly to Heather Cacanindin at [HCacanindin@Botany.org](mailto:HCacanindin@Botany.org). Students must be able to attend the entire Botanical Society of America meetings in Tucson from **July 27-31, 2019**.

Applicants must be domestic undergraduate students registered or very recently graduated (i.e., within the last 12 months). Local students at tribal colleges, community colleges, and minority-serving institutions and those demonstrating a need for funds to attend BOTANY will be given preference, and will be selected so that as a group, they will help to diversify the pool of undergraduates attending the meetings.

For further questions, please contact Ann Sakai ([aksakai@uci.edu](mailto:aksakai@uci.edu)), Anna Monfils ([monfi1ak@cmich.edu](mailto:monfi1ak@cmich.edu)), or Heather Cacanindin ([hcacanindin@botany.org](mailto:hcacanindin@botany.org)).