

OIP and APS Foundation Invite Applications from International Members to Attend the 2009 APS Annual Meeting in Portland, OR

The APS Foundation, in cooperation with the Office of International Programs (OIP), has established a travel fund to support travel costs for early- to mid-career international APS members to participate in an APS annual meeting. This fund is intended to support scientists native to and working in developing countries who otherwise would not be able to attend APS meetings. Recipients must hold post-graduate positions in their respective country; graduate students and post-doctoral fellows will not be funded. It is anticipated that one \$1,500 award will be made for the 2009 APS annual meeting. The guidelines and criteria for this award are provided below. Questions should be directed to **Talo Pastor-Corrales**, USDA ARS SBGI, Bldg 006, Rm 118, BARC-W, 10300 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, MD 20705 USA; Phone: +1.301.504.6600; Fax: +1.301.504.5728; E-mail: talo.pastor-corrales@ars.usda.gov.

Guidelines and Criteria

1. This is a competitive annual award to current APS international members or participants in the Group Membership Plan who reside outside the United States.
2. Preference will be given to scientists in developing countries.
3. The applicant must clearly demonstrate that the award is needed for them to attend the meeting; applicants with other, significant support will not be considered.
4. If an award is approved, the applicant must present original research pertaining to plant pathology by means of an oral or poster presentation at the annual meeting.
5. A three-person Travel Award Committee, appointed by the APS Foundation and the OIP, will review applications.
6. Travel awards are intended for travel, lodging, and registration only at APS annual meetings. **Please supply a detailed travel budget, including other sources of funds.**
7. Applicants with an advanced degree who are currently employed at an established institution and have no more than 15 years of professional experience are eligible.
8. Applications must be no more than two pages and include the following:
 - Demonstrated initiative and involvement in national and/or international activities relating to plant pathology.
 - Brief description of how this award and attendance at the APS meeting will benefit the applicant and impact his/her work in plant pathology.
 - Brief summary of any circumstances, including financial needs, **that make attendance at the APS meeting solely dependent on receiving this award.**
9. Applicant must indicate how she/he will obtain a U.S. visa.
10. Application must include a curriculum vitae (three pages or less).
11. Applications **must include a copy of an abstract** of the presentation to be made at the meeting.
 1. Applications **must include a supporting letter** (one-page maximum) from an APS member colleague that includes a statement of the applicant's scientific merit, accomplishments in plant pathology, and financial need. This person should plan to attend the APS meeting and assist with hosting the applicant.
 2. Each applicant may receive only one award. If awardee is not able to attend the meeting, she/he is required to return the funds to the APS Foundation.

Application Process

1. Submit applications **by regular or express mail** (three complete copies) **or by e-mail or fax** to Talo Pastor-Corrales at the address given above. Applications **must be received no later than November 3, 2008**. If possible, the letter of support should be included with the application, not mailed separately.
2. Provide an e-mail address or self-addressed (without postage) envelope to allow us to notify you no later than January 15, 2009, as to the outcome of your request. Awardees will be reimbursed for travel, lodging, and registration expenses up to the award amount. ■

