A tree with hands and hearts

Description automatically generated**A hand holding a microscope

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**Plant Health 2024 Caregiver Travel Grant Terms and Conditions**

The APS Family and Caregiver Support award will provide at least two awards, up to $500 each, to support travel to the annual APS Plant Health meeting for APS members that are either caregivers or require Personal Assistance Services to cover the additional costs associated with travel. A caregiver will be defined as an APS member who provides primary care for an individual who is unable to solely care for themselves (e.g. a young or disabled child, a sick, injured or elderly partner, spouse or relative). Personal Assistance Services (PAS) are defined by the US Department of Labor Office of Disability Employment Policy <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/odep/program-areas/employment-supports/personal-assistance-services> and could include traveling with a PAS for assistance with mobility issue, visual impairment, or sign language interpreter.

Applicants are required to be current APS members and to declare that they will use the funds for the approved travel expenses. Applications will be reviewed on an anonymous basis by a subcommittee from the APS Family and Caregiver Support Committee. Award preference will be given to individuals who are attending the APS meeting for the first time, who are presenting/have mentees presenting (oral given preference over poster), are volunteering within the APS meeting, and are earlier in their career. The top applicants will then be entered into a drawing for the award. The award may be used for any caregiving/PAS costs that the applicant would not normally incur during their workday, such as the cost (airfare, hotel, meals) to travel with a child/caregiver or PAS or after-hours at-home care, or cost of breast-milk transport services.

Awardees from Plant Health 2023 are not eligible to receive this grant for Plant Health 2024. The application deadline is May 27th, and awardees will be notified individually in mid-June. Awardees must confirm acceptance of the award and attendance of the conference within 2 weeks of the award notification, otherwise the award may be revoked and given to another qualifying applicant. Awardees must be registered for Plant Health 2024 no later than June 27, 2024. Awardees may be contacted for feedback on the grant process and use of funds post the conference, which will also be kept confidential.

Questions? Reach out to [jmaroney@scisoc.org](mailto:jmaroney@scisoc.org).