



Florida Native Plant Society

Application Guidelines for the Dan Austin Award for Ethnobotany

General Information - The Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS), whose mission is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida, provides an award of up to \$1,500 to the project that the Dan Austin Award Subcommittee (DAAS) determines will best fulfill the Society's Mission and meets the award criteria as stated below. This award is given in memory and recognition of Dr. Daniel F. Austin, and his work in ethnobotany.

FNPS does not pay for indirect costs associated with an award project. The applicant does not have to be an FNPS member. Following completion of the project, the award recipient agrees to summarize the results, adding to the general literature and conservation knowledge, in the following ways: 1) a written summary with photographs in the FNPS publication, the *Palmetto*, and 2) a presentation (oral or poster) with photographs at the annual FNPS Conference, typically conducted in May, **or** a presentation with photographs at a monthly FNPS chapter meeting. Whichever options are chosen, contact the DAAS at: conservation@fnps.org to confirm.

Questions regarding the Ethnobotany Award program should be sent to conservation@fnps.org.

Submittal Information - Submit completed applications by **March 6, 2026 5pm EST** to qualify for the current calendar year's application cycle. Applications must be submitted via email in either a Microsoft® Word document or Adobe® pdf format, to info@fnps.org.

Award Process - The FNPS DAAS will review submissions and recommend a proposal for the Dan Austin Award for Ethnobotany to the FNPS Board of Directors for approval. Applications must be complete for a project to be considered for funding. Applicants will be notified via email in May/June 2026, as to whether or not they have received a grant award. The FNPS will announce the award recipient(s) at the annual FNPS conference (applicants DO NOT need to be present) and in the *Palmetto* publication.

Eligibility

This award will be limited to graduate or undergraduate students who are studying Florida ethnobotany—i.e., the study of the relationship between peoples or cultures with plants native to Florida or Florida ecosystems. These can be current uses or historic uses.

Does your project involve humans (including oral history, questionnaire surveys as well as clinical trials, etc.)? If so, it will require the approval of the host institution's Institutional Review Board (IRB), and **the student and their advisor must have an IRB training certificate**. Check your institution for online training. Refer to <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/guidance/45cfr46.html#46.102> for more information regarding requirements when human subjects are involved in research, e.g., if you talk to park managers and get their input, an IRB will be needed. The people you work with should give consent and understand the purpose of your study in creating "generalizable knowledge."

When human subjects are involved, please provide:

- A letter from your advisor, certifying that they support the project, and that both the student and the advisor have IRB training from their institution
- A copy of the IRB protocol submitted for your project
- Note: the application can be submitted without IRB approval, but if awarded, must be approved before the funds are dispersed.

Award Evaluation Criteria

- Research must focus on Florida native plant species or plant communities.
- Research project must have a human/plant connection.
- Research can include mycology, taxonomy, botany, demographics of medicinal plants, medicinal chemistry, human effects on soils, economic importance, etc.

IPR (intellectual property rights)

Recipients of the award need to adhere to a code of ethics, such as the one adopted by The Society for Economic Botany, from the International Society of Ethnobiology Code of Ethics (http://www.ethnobiology.net/wp-content/uploads/ISE-COE_Eng_rev_24Nov08.pdf).

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(DO NOT SUBMIT ABOVE TWO PAGES WITH GRANT APPLICATION; USE THE ATTACHED APPLICATION)



FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
DAN AUSTIN AWARD FOR ETHNOBOTANY APPLICATION
(Cut and paste into a Word document or Email dialog box)

Name of Individual and/or Organization Applying for Grant:

Name of Primary Contact (if other than above):

Mailing Address:

Email Address: _____ Telephone: _____

1. Add pages to this application form to incorporate the following information:

a. Project Title

b. Project Abstract: In approximately 150 words or less

c. Project Narrative: Describe the project in not more than 1500 words (3 pages single spaced @ 12 point font). Include project goals and objectives and state whether this is an on-going project. Describe coordination with other individuals, institutions or organizations.

d. Budget Detail: (not to exceed \$1,500); with a breakdown that facilitates understanding of the project approach and goals; Include information if there is matching funding.

e. Project timeline schedule (normally one year)

1. Grant Applicant Signature:

Signature Date:

Printed Name and Title:

2. Signature of Sponsoring FNPS Chapter President (or designee):

Signature Date:

Printed Name / Name of FNPS Chapter:

(CONTINUED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE)

Budget detail

Budget item	Item description	Grant funds requested	Matching funding
Salary			
Supplies			
Travel			
Equipment			
Contractual			
Other			
Total			