

S498 Dellavalle Soil Science Scholarship Committee

A. Status: Special Committee

B. Composition and Tenure:

The Committee consists of the Chair plus four members. The selection committee will be appointed by the President of the Soil Science Society of America.

The term of office for committee members is three years.

The Chair serves for one year.

C. Functions:

1. To encourage applications for this scholarship.
2. To become familiar with the Guidelines and Procedures for this scholarship and to be responsible that all applications fulfill the required criteria of eligibility for the scholarship.
3. To evaluate applications and to select the most outstanding applicant for the scholarship.

D. Procedure:

1. The SSSA Headquarters Office distributes the applications to the Committee members and advises them of the scoring or ranking to be followed. The Chair transmits any special instructions to members.
2. The Chair of S498 does not vote, unless in the case of a tie, then votes to break the tie.
3. The Chair of S498 reports the results of the Committee's selection process to the Headquarters office.
4. The Chair of S498 submits an annual report as requested by the Society, indicating the number of applicants and the name of the recipient.

E. Presidential Responsibilities:

The SSSA President:

1. Appoints new members to replace those whose terms expire and appoints the Chair of the Committee.
2. Cooperates with the Committee in its activities, as appropriate or in response to need.
3. Notifies the Committee directly or via the General Awards Chair of all deadlines on award selection, annual report, etc.
4. Receives and takes action directly, or by referring to the SSSA Executive Committee and/or Board of Directors, as appropriate, all suggestions and/or recommendations for action from the Committee.

F. Description of Scholarship:

Nat and Ann Dellavalle establishes this scholarship with the purpose to encourage high school students to pursue careers in soil science. The scholarship shall be awarded to a high school senior to be enrolled in a soil science major at an accredited program in the United States.

The Scholarship award given annually shall be in the amount of \$5000 beginning in 2018 through the year 2023, thereafter determined annually by the ASF Board. Funds for the scholarship are made available by the Agronomic Science Foundation and administered by the Soil Science Society of America.

G. Eligibility Requirements:

Criteria for application to the scholarship:

- a) Applicants shall be enrolled or accepted in a degreed program in the Soil Sciences curriculum of an accredited university located in the United States.
- b) Applicants shall be in good academic standing with a GPA of 3.5 or better on a 4 point scale.
- c) Applicants shall exhibit evidence of leadership activities within their school or community.
- d) Applicants should submit a recommendation from a high school STEM teacher.
- e) Applicants shall have future plans related to a career in Soil Science.
- f) Previous awardees are eligible for renewal of the scholarship.
- g) Applicants may self-nominate for this scholarship.
- h) No fees will be charged to applicants for this scholarship.

Applicants will be considered in the following order:

1. A senior at Madera High School in Madera California
2. A senior at another high school in Madera County California
3. A senior at a high school in the service area of Dellavalle Laboratory (DLI).

The successful recipient would be considered for an internship or part time employment with DLI while an undergraduate. Preference given to students pursuing STEM options.

I. Scoring or Ranking Procedure:

Each member of the committee ranks the applicants in order from 1 to n (the number of applicants). Each member's ranking is conveyed to the Chair, who totals the points received by each applicant. The scholarship recipient(s) is the applicant receiving the lowest score. The Chair only votes to break a tie. The scholarship need not be presented in a given year if it is judged that the applicants do not meet the criteria.

J. Revising Guidelines or Procedures:

The scholarship committee may recommend changes or revisions relative to criteria, description, selection process of recipients, etc., for this scholarship. All recommendations must be approved by the SSSA Board of Directors or Executive Committee before said recommendations may be implemented. It is preferable to submit recommendations through the Society Awards Chair; however, recommendations may be submitted through the President or directly to the Board of Directors or Executive Committee.