

Plantae Convirion Seeding Discovery Competition Official Competition Rules

Who Can Apply

To be eligible to participate in this competition you and your sponsoring institution must meet minimum eligibility requirements:

- a. The applicant must be a student enrolled in a post-secondary program at the time of submitting the research proposal. For the purposes of this competition, a student is defined as someone currently enrolled in a bachelors, masters or doctorate education program related to plant science.
- b. The applicant's sponsoring institution must have a physical address in either the USA or Canada. The location the research proposal is coming from is determined by the physical location of the institution accepting the GEN1000, not based on the residence or home country of the applicant or supporting signatories.
- c. The applicant must have a profile on www.community.Plantae.org.
- d. The applicant must complete all parts of the research proposal application by the submission deadline.

Employees of Controlled Environments Limited (hereafter referred to as Convirion) and the American Society of Plant Biology (hereafter referred to as ASPB), their affiliated companies, advertising and promotion agencies and the immediate family members of each are ineligible. The term "immediate family" includes spouses, grandparents, parents, siblings, children and grandchildren.

How to Apply

1. No purchase is necessary to apply.
2. One research proposal is allowed per applicant.
3. To submit a proposal, go to Plantae.org/SeedingDiscovery and click on the submission button. No materials may be emailed unless otherwise noted or approval granted in advance by ASPB.
4. By applying, applicants represent and warrant (i) that they own all materials submitted, and (ii) it does not violate the rights of any third parties. No offensive materials (as determined by ASPB in its sole and absolute discretion) will be accepted. ASPB reserves the right to disqualify any applicant if they are in violation of competition rules as detailed in this document.

5. The competition opens on April 8, 2019, and all research proposals must be completed and received by ASPB by midnight EDT on June 7, 2019. ASPB is not responsible for lost, late, or misdirected proposals, printing errors, server unavailability, computer, or any other electronic malfunction.
6. On or about June 14, 2019, semifinalists will be selected from the eligible countries. The number of semifinalists will be determined by the number of applications received. The semifinalists will be selected based on the merit of their research proposal by an independent panel of judges appointed and administered solely by ASPB. Judges will use a point based system and the applicants will be kept as anonymous as possible. Judges will be asked to recuse themselves if they become aware they know either the applicant, their supervisors or if they are engaged by the same institution as the applicant.
7. Within three weeks of being notified, each semifinalist must submit a personalized, informal video (including the original video file) no more than two minutes in duration. The video should summarize the research proposal, how they will use the chamber and present their case for selection. Should a semifinalist decline to submit a video, their proposal will be void and another semifinalist will be selected in their place.
8. The winner will be asked to complete a site readiness checklist to confirm their institutions:
 - a. Preparedness to receive the GEN1000
 - b. Formal acceptance of the chamber and associated terms and conditions
9. The winner and the institution's representative responsible for receiving the GEN1000 must respond in a timely manner to all communications from ASPB in order to arrange for delivery of the chamber. Should there be a failure to respond to communications in a timely manner, ASPB reserves the right to proceed to another semifinalist.

The GEN1000 Plant Growth Chamber from Conviron

1. Conviron will award one GEN1000 plant growth chamber to the institution of the winning applicant for the primary use of the applicant to complete their proposed research program. Specifications of the GEN1000 can be found on the competition website at <https://plantae.org/SeedingDiscovery>.

2. The institution will retain permanent ownership of the GEN1000, which may be used for other research following completion of the research program proposed by the applicant.
3. Neither ASPB or Conviron will seek any ownership of any intellectual property resulting from use of the equipment.
4. There will be no substitutions or cash alternatives for applicants or their institutions. No transfer or assignment of the awarded GEN1000 is allowed, unless approved in writing by Conviron.
5. Conviron and ASPB are not responsible for any liability arising directly or indirectly from the use of the GEN1000.
6. In accepting the GEN1000, applicants acknowledge Conviron and ASPB have the intent and right to publicize details of the semifinalists, the competition winner and the sponsoring institution for marketing and educational purposes without constraint or financial remuneration. Details include awardee name, educational and research background, institution name, site photographs and videos, any application materials, and research proposal.
7. ASPB reserves the right to make rules, change competition procedures and change the aforementioned competition dates where warranted.
8. By entering this competition, each applicant waives any and all claims of liability against ASPB, Conviron and their respective parents, affiliates, officers, directors, employees and agents, for any and all claims, loss, damage or injury which may occur as a result of entrant's participation in this competition.