

Margie Jenkins First Time Attendee Conference Scholarship

Application Deadline: June 1



Program Overview

The Margie Jenkins IPPS Conference Scholarship Award supports first-time attendees of the International Plant Production Society Southern Region of North America (IPPS-SRNA) Annual Meeting. The award covers full conference registration, including educational sessions, tours, and the awards banquet. Travel and lodging expenses are not included.

This scholarship honors the legacy of Ms. Margie Jenkins, a longtime IPPS-SRNA member who entered the nursery industry later in life and became a respected leader, mentor, and plant advocate across the Gulf States. Under her leadership, Jenkins Farm and Nursery flourished, and she earned widespread recognition for her horticultural expertise, educational outreach, and commitment to mentoring emerging professionals. Margie Jenkins exemplified the IPPS mission of *Seeking and Sharing* and remains an enduring inspiration to the green industry.

Program Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Must be employed or self-employed in the horticulture industry or related field.
- Must be a first-time attendee of an IPPS-SRNA conference.
- Preference given to applicants from the local area hosting the annual meeting.

Award Details

- Full registration for the IPPS Southern Region Annual Meeting
- Travel and Hotel NOT included

Responsibilities

Selected winners are expected to:

- Participating in an interview with the IPPS Communications Director for promotional purposes
- Submit a professional biography (200 words) and a high-resolution photograph
- Attend all functions at the hosting region event, including the opening remarks and awards ceremony where the delegate will be introduced

Application Instructions

To be considered, applicants must submit the following:

1. Completed application form
2. 200-word professional biography and high-resolution photograph
3. One letter of recommendation from:
 - o A current or former professor, a professional supervisor, a customer or colleague
4. Required essay responses (see below)

Applicant Information

Full Name:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Education

Institution Name:

Institution Address:

Degree or Certificate Earned:

Dates Attended:

If not completed, please indicate highest level achieved:

Employment Experience

Please list your most recent position

Employer / Organization:

Dates of Employment:

Position Title:

Brief Description of Responsibilities:

Professional Reference

Please attach one educational or professional reference (no family members).
Include name, title, organization, email address, and phone number.

Required Essay Responses

(Maximum 400 words total; may be submitted as a single document)

1. Purpose and Value

Explain why participating in IPPS Southern Region is important at this stage of your career. What specific learning opportunities or professional outcomes do you anticipate?

2. Contribution and Impact

How will you contribute to the IPPS community during and after the meeting? Include how you plan to share knowledge gained with the Southern Region and the broader horticulture industry.

Additional Information

Please include any additional information that strengthens your application including leadership roles, research, industry involvement, or unique experiences.

Applicant Agreement

I certify that all information provided in this application is accurate and complete. I understand the responsibilities associated with participation in the IPPS Southern Region Scholarship Program.

Signature:

Date:

Submission Information DUE JUNE 1

Please submit completed applications to:

Donna Foster

Email: scplant@bellsouth.net

Phone: (803) 743-4284