

**Texas Nursery & Landscape Association
Education & Research Foundation
Grant Application Policy
2007-2008**

The Texas Nursery & Landscape Association's Education and Research Foundation is now soliciting proposals for the 2007-2008 funding period. Proposals that solve problems in the following areas will be considered:

PLANT MATERIAL
PRODUCTION
URBAN LANDSCAPES

Proposals sponsored by several departments, colleges, or interdisciplinary groups are encouraged. It is expected that funding per proposal will not exceed \$5,000, although proposals with several sponsors may ask for up to \$15,000.

Deadline

The TNLA office must receive all proposals by 5:00 p.m. on October 31, 2007.

Mission:

The Foundation's mission is to provide leadership to the nursery/landscape industry in support of education, research, and public awareness of the environmentally beneficial uses of plants.

Goals:

- To focus on industry issues such as water, waste management, marketing, and operations;
- To educate the industry by effectively communicating research results;
- To continuously identify and fund research which addresses the highest priority needs of growers, landscape, and retail garden center operations;
- To continue to develop TNLA's Education and Research Foundation funding base.

Policy objectives:

The objectives of this policy are to describe key criteria guiding the project proposal activities of the Texas Nursery & Landscape Association's Education and Research Foundation and to outline the grant structure and processes.

Proposal Review and Grant Allocation:

Grant applications are solicited annually. The Foundation's Board of Trustees reviews proposals. Each proposal is reviewed according to specific criteria:

- Does it address an issue(s) identified above?
- Will the proposed research have significant impact on the nursery/landscape industry?
- Does it have broad economic usefulness?
- Are its objectives and present status clearly stated?
- Is the proposed project feasible within the stated timeframe and estimated budget?

The Trustees evaluation weights the first three questions more heavily. A topic may be generic or specific. Interdisciplinary proposals between departments or universities are encouraged. Such proposals require a designated team leader. Vitae or resume of the project leader should be included with the proposal. Foundation Trustees may consult with a scientist advisor to assist in evaluation. Trustees make awards solely on merit and may or may not make awards in any given year.

To enable maximum flexibility, no minimum amount of request is established. Projects may run from one to two years. Grant award winners will be notified of awards no later than **December 1 2007**.

Grants from the TNLA Education and Research Foundation are considered an unrestricted gift; and no administrative overhead/deduction is to be made.

Topical significance is the key criterion for proposal selection. This approach not only ensures results that meet industry needs, it allows the Foundation to direct the process by requesting and favoring those proposals that address selected priorities.

Please submit 10 copies of the completed application form to the TNLA office. This form is available in Microsoft Word format on the TNLA web site at www.tnlaonline.org or by email request to info@tnlaonline.org. Computer generated submissions may be no more than four pages in length and no less than 12 pt type. This page limitation does not include the vitae or resume of the team project leader.

**Texas Nursery & Landscape Association
Education & Research Foundation
Grant Application 2007-2008**

Project Title _____

Project Leader _____

Project Team _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Primary Contact _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Please include in your submission the following topics.

1. Executive Summary
2. Significance and Objective (What priority will this project address?)
3. Present Status (What work has been done to date on the problem/opportunity by the applicant?)
4. List of additional project cooperators.
5. How does the project relate to the criteria?
6. What economic usefulness to the industry will this project have?
7. Estimated budget including funds obtained or sought from other sources.
8. Project Methodology (How will this project be conducted and within what timeframe?)
9. Result Dissemination (How will results be reported to industry? In what format will results be presented for meaningful technology transfer to the industry?)

Mail to: TNLA Education & Research Foundation, 2007-2008 Grant Proposals,
7730 South IH-35, Austin, Texas 78745-6698.