

PSI Heuermann Graduate Recognition Award 2026

- 4 awards of \$2,500 each -

The **PSI Heuermann Graduate Recognition Award** honors graduate students who have distinguished themselves in terms of research productivity, professional accomplishments, and service to their profession.

Eligibility

- Masters and Doctoral students in PSI labs are eligible to apply.
- Students may receive the Award more than once, but the second application will be evaluated based only on new accomplishments since the first application.

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed and ranked by the PSI Graduate Committee based on the following evaluation criteria:

1. Record of publication, research products (e.g., databases, R-packages), and grant productivity
2. Internal and external scientific presentations, especially at national and international meetings
3. Awards and recognitions
4. Contributions to the broader plant science community and the public

Application Requirements

1. **Research statement (1 page limit)** addressing the following:
 - a. How the research contributes to PSI's vision and mission (<https://psi.unl.edu/vision-mission-and-core-values/>)
 - b. Description of current and past research accomplishments, emphasizing work done while at UNL in PSI and how the research advances knowledge in the applicant's discipline
 - c. Description of overall career plans and how the research contributes to them
 - d. Description of professional service and outreach activities (e.g., activities with CROPS or public scientific outreach)
2. **CV**
3. **Letter of support:** The applicant should arrange for a letter of support (1 page) to be submitted by the student's major advisor, emphasizing how the applicant's research contributes to advancing knowledge in basic or applied science and their professional service activities.

Submission Instructions

- Complete the online application form: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/KVGRDnDix1>
- Documents 1 and 2 in the application requirements should be combined into a single PDF file.
- The letter(s) of support should be emailed by the applicant's mentor(s) to the PSI Graduate Committee Chair (jpmower@unl.edu) by the application deadline.
- **Application Deadline: Apr 24th**. Decisions will be made by the end of May 2026.
- **Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.**

Additional Information

Awardees will be announced by the PSI mailing list and on the PSI website. Awardees will be honored at the Plant Science Retreat in November 2026.

Contact jpmower@unl.edu with questions.