

## Call for grants to attend the PLPF9 meeting in Braga (16-19 May 2022)

Call opening: 25/01/2022

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The Iberian Association of Limnology (AIL) offers **2 grants** to attend and present a communication at the 9th Plant Litter Processing in Freshwaters Congress PLPF9 (University of Minho, Braga, 16-19 May 2022, <http://plpf9.org>). The grants will cover the early registration fee for students (230€ each).

### CANDIDATES

- Only students **members of the Young AIL group** (J-AIL) that have their AIL fees updated when this call opens can submit an application.
- The candidate must be the **first author** and the presenter of a communication at the meeting.
- This grant cannot be accumulated with any other grant covering the registration fee to the same meeting. This grant will be attributed only if the candidate's institution does not grant him/her with the registration fee, which needs to be testified in a written declaration to be signed by the candidate.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The application form and associated documents need to be sent by e-mail, in a single PDF file, to the AIL secretary ([secretaria@limnologia.net](mailto:secretaria@limnologia.net)) before **11 February 2022 at 9 am (Portuguese time) / 10 am (Spanish time)**.

### EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation commission will consist of the AIL secretary, the AIL treasurer and the members representing the Young AIL group in the Direction board, except in case of any conflict of interest. In this situation, the affected person will be replaced by another board member. The decision of the selection board will be a final judgment without appeal.

The selection of candidates will be based on the following criteria, ranked by importance:

1. Candidates who have not benefited from AIL grants to attend meetings or courses, up to 5 years before this call opens (thesis or communication prizes will not be considered).
2. Candidates who have asked for an oral communication.
3. Candidates who have never attended a scientific meeting before.
4. Candidates who are unemployed at the time of the application (a document certifying this condition needs to be submitted together with the application).
5. Candidates travelling longer distances to attend the meeting. Four distance categories will be established: <100km, 100-500km, 501-1000km and >1000km.
6. Candidates with longer membership to AIL.
7. Candidates with children under 3 years at the time this call opens. Priority will be given to women (following an AIL study, Sánchez-Montoya et al. 2016), men having benefitted from paternity leave of at least 2 months, and other situations.
8. Candidates from research groups whose members have not benefited from AIL grants to attend meetings or courses, up to 2 years before this call opens (thesis or communication prizes will not be considered). Research groups will be defined from the Principal Investigator.
9. In case there is a tie, the abstracts will be selected based on their topic to increase the diversity of selected abstracts.

Information referring to criteria 1 – 8 will be asked for in the application form. In case a candidate does not provide all the required information, the least favorable criteria will be applied.

**No more than one grant** will be attributed to the same institution if doing so implied candidates from other institutions not receiving the grant. Thus, in case two grants fall in the same institution, and the candidates are tied, the abstracts will be evaluated based on criteria number 9.

## **OBLIGATIONS OF THE SELECTED CANDIDATES**

### **Before the meeting:**

- Inform the AIL secretary about the acceptance of the communication.
- Send to AIL secretary an invoice of the registration fee in name of AIL so that the grant can be paid (early registration to the meeting closes on 25<sup>th</sup> February). Selected candidates should ask the meeting organization for an invoice with the description (including the beneficiary name) and as the payer the “Asociación Ibérica de Limnología”, with CIF number G-80028186 and address C/ Porche, 2-1, 46920 – MISLATA.
- In case these documents are not sent, the grant will be transferred to the next candidate in the waiting list that fulfils all the criteria, to whom the same documents will be requested.
- Inform the AIL secretary about other financial support obtained to cover the meeting registration fee, in which case the grant would be transferred to the next candidate in the waiting list that fulfils all the criteria. However, the AIL grant is compatible with other funding covering the travel and accommodation expenses related to the meeting attendance.
- Inform the AIL secretary in case of impossibility to attend the meeting so that the grant can be transferred to the next candidate in the waiting list that fulfils all the criteria.

### **During the meeting:**

- Acknowledge the grant in the communication (oral or poster) by showing the AIL logo and mentioning this call.
- Represent the AIL in the stand, in case there is one, on the established schedule.

## **NOTIFICATION AND PAYMENT OF THE GRANTS**

- The decision on this call will be taken before 15th February 2022. The AIL secretary will send a ranked list of pre-selected candidates to all AIL members.
- Until the meeting, the selected candidates will notify the AIL secretary if other grants incompatible with the AIL grant have been received.
- The grant will be paid as a reimbursement to the selected candidates when the document testifying the acceptance of the abstract and the invoice have been received by the AIL secretary. For the reimbursement, the beneficiary should contact the AIL secretary ([secretaria@limnologia.net](mailto:secretaria@limnologia.net)) and provide the necessary bank information to allow the reimbursement of the registration fee. The reimbursement will be paid to the beneficiary only if he/she has paid the registration fee, not his/her institution. Thus the payment of the fee needs to be made individually by the beneficiary, and both AIL and his/her names must be in the invoice.



Romina Álvarez Troncoso  
Secretary of the Iberian Association of Limnology  
Barcelona, 25th January 2022