Awards are available to graduate (Masters and Ph.D.) students currently working under the supervision of a faculty member affiliated with the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Tennessee - Knoxville. Preference will be for applicants pursuing studies related to research on algae and studies of plants at the biochemical and cellular levels, although research in the areas of systematics, ecology, biogeography, conservation, and biodiversity of algae and plants will be considered.

Award funding cannot be used for living expenses or to cover publication costs, but may be used for travel to scientific meetings at which you are presenting your research supported by this award, fieldwork, supplies, food/lodging in the field, or other costs directly related to your proposed research. The awarded funds must be spent within one year. Any outstanding award funding remaining after one year will be returned to the Holton Endowment.

Please send your completed application form (1 page) and your proposal (2 pages) electronically as one pdf document (3 pages total) to the TENN Collections Manager, Margaret Oliver <molive18@utk.edu>, with “2023 Holton Plant Research Award - [applicant's last name]” in the subject line.

● The proposal should be limited to two pages, including references.
● Detailed budget information must be included. A detailed list of project expenses should be listed on the application form. Information justifying the budget for the project should be included in the proposal. Applicants may request up to $1,500.
● An expected timeline, including when components of your proposal will be completed relative to your expected graduation.
● A detailed statement of all sources of current and pending support for your research project and/or travel (amount, source, dates of funding, and how much funding remains or is anticipated) must be included. List any Holton Plant Research Awards that you have received in the last five years, including the year, amount, purpose, and accomplishments from the award.
● Once the award is granted the funds must be used as outlined in your proposal.
● Final reports will be due to Margaret Oliver <molive18@utk.edu>, one year from the award date and should include a short note of appreciation (to be shared with the donors, Ray and Linda Holton) outline goals, progress to date, conclusions, GenBank accessions for any sequences generated, meeting presentations, publications, amount spent and for what purpose, and funds remaining, if any.
● Any student who received an award in 2022 will be eligible to apply for an award in 2023. However, given funding limits, these applications may receive lower priority. Members of the UTK EEB Collections Committee will review the applications and recommend funding levels for the awards. Students will be notified in writing of their award status after the committee has met.
● Any thesis/dissertation, publication, or presentation aided by these awards must include a statement acknowledging the support of the Ray and Linda Holton Plant Research Graduate Endowment at the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Tennessee - Knoxville.
● Recipients of this award shall be known as Ray and Linda Holton Plant Research Graduate Scholars.
Name of Applicant:
UTK Email Address:
Title of Proposal:
Masters or Ph.D.:
Year in the program:
Anticipated graduation date:
Comprehensive Exam Date:
EEB Affiliated Faculty Supervisor:

Budget (detailed list of project expenses):

Project timeline:

Current and pending support for this project:

Amount requested for 2023 award: $__________