

Rules of Procedure of “Deutschen Gesellschaft für Pflanzenernährung e.V. (DGP)”

Status as of 26.08.2025

With this version, previous rules of procedure lose their validity.

Membership

1. Prerequisite for membership is a written application using the respective valid form, which is provided on the website of the DGP. The original form must be sent to the DGP office.
2. Each new member agrees to the Constitution, Privacy Policy, and Rules of Procedure in the application.
3. The Executive Board decides on admission to the DGP. Applicants will be informed by the management.
4. DGP membership includes online access to all volumes of the Journal of Plant Nutrition and Soil Science (JPNSS). New members receive the password for access with the membership confirmation. Upon request to the office, JPNSS can be obtained in printed form at no additional cost.
5. Members commit to provide the office with their personal details relevant for membership administration (current postal address, e-mail address, bank details for the collection of membership fees) in full and to notify the office of any changes in time.
6. The membership year begins on January 01 and ends on December 31.
7. The membership fee is due on February 01 of the respective year. For the payment of the membership fee, the DGP prefers the direct debit procedure. When using the direct debit procedure, the respective valid membership fee will be debited from the account on February 01. Alternatively, it is possible to transfer the membership fee to the DGP account yourself by February 01. For this purpose, members will receive a payment request in January.
8. Membership applications submitted in the first 6 months of the year are obligated to pay the membership fee for the current fiscal year. In the case of applications submitted later, the first financial year is free of charge.
9. The regular membership fee is € 50. Students and doctoral candidates pay a reduced fee of € 15. In December, the office will request an informal certificate for the reason for the discount. If this has not been received by the office by January 15, the regular fee will be charged. As a certificate, copies of an enrollment certificate or a student ID or an informal certificate of the supervisor can be submitted by email to the office.

10. An administrative fee of € 2.00 will be charged for the dunning procedure in case of late payment of membership fees.

11. Reversal of a direct debit by the member's financial institution or outstanding dues payment from two consecutive years authorizes the Board of Directors to terminate membership after attempted contact.

12. Membership may be terminated by written revocation. The revocation of membership shall be addressed to the office of the Society. The cancellation will be confirmed by email. The proof of the proper receipt of the cancellation lies with the member.

13. The correspondence is usually done by email. This includes the membership confirmation, cancellation confirmation and the annual membership fee invoices, as well as circulars and association information.

Organization and support of scientific events

1. Information on the annual meetings of the DGP is published on the DGP website. In addition, the DGP also provides information about conferences not organized by it.

2. The DGP commissions a member or group of members to organize its annual meeting and provides financial support to the organizers. The board also provides assistance to the organizers of international annual meetings in writing a DFG proposal and maintains a list of possible sponsors.

3. The DGP can support further conferences and other scientific events in the sense of the association's goals. For this purpose, the organizers submit an informal written application to the office. After approval by the board, costs incurred can be covered. For this purpose, invoices are to be sent directly to the office and receipts for cash reimbursement are to be submitted to the office.

4. Participation in DPG events is at the participant's own risk, i.e., the DPG is not liable for any damage incurred in connection with the holding of an event.

Scholarships and prizes

1. The DGP awards three poster prizes totaling € 600 at its annual meetings. The prizewinners are selected by a committee.

2. Each year, the DGP awards a doctoral prize to a dissertation in the field of plant nutrition. In exceptional cases, the prize may be awarded twice. The award is associated with a prize money

of € 1000. Candidates can either be nominated by members of the DGP or submit a self-application. Candidates who have obtained their doctorate at a German university since August 01 of the previous year are eligible to apply. Outstanding work in the field of plant nutrition that has been evaluated with at least "magna cum laude" will be considered. The following must be submitted with the application to the DGP office: Letter of motivation (max. 1 page), Curriculum Vitae, doctoral degree certificate or provisional certificate of the doctorate, expert opinion of the supervisor, dissertation thesis. The application must be sent as one coherent PDF file, as well as the dissertation thesis as a separate PDF file, by email to the DGP management. The deadline for submission will be announced on the DGP website. The official awarding of the doctoral prize takes place during the annual meeting of the DGP, which is usually held in September. During the award ceremony, the award winner presents his or her dissertation in a talk. It is therefore necessary that the person is present, unless the meeting is held in an online format.

3. The DGP awards grants of up to €500 to doctoral students and postdocs for participation in conferences and other scientific events or further training in the field of plant nutrition, as well as for research stays. The application for funding is informal, must be justified and should be sent to the office. The application must be submitted as a single PDF file and must contain the following documents:

- Cover letter
- A list of estimated costs
- For conference scholarships: Proof of your own contribution (e.g. abstract, poster)
- For research stays: Description of the planned work at the host institute
- For further training: Aim and justification of the further training

Proof of the actual costs incurred must be submitted to the office immediately after completion of the funded measure, but no later than three months after completion. A grant of up to £500 will only be paid out if the supporting documents are submitted in full and on time.

For funded research stays, a short report (approx. ½ page) on the activities carried out and the results achieved must be prepared and submitted with the supporting documents. This report may be published on the DGP website.

Furthermore, the following regulations apply to the awarding of scholarships to ensure the sustainable use of funds:

- A maximum of five scholarships are awarded per financial year: no more than three in the first half of the year and – if this number has been reached – no more than two in the second half of the year. If fewer than three scholarships were awarded in the first half of the year, the difference can be made up in the second half of the year to a total of five scholarships.
- There are two application deadlines per year: 30 April for projects in the period from 1 July to 31 January and 31 August for projects in the period from 1 February to 30 June. The assessment of applications begins after the submission deadline.
- Funding is only possible if a European IBAN is provided for payment.
- For conference participation, early bird registration is a prerequisite for funding. Please include proof of this with your application.
- No more than two scholarships per working group may be awarded per financial year.
- Funding for the same person in two consecutive years is not possible.
- Approval or rejection will be made without giving reasons.

Subject to change

1. The DGP Board is authorized to amend the Rules of Procedure. Amendments to the Rules of Procedure shall be communicated to the members by e-mail.

2. If a member does not agree to the amended rules of procedure, he or she must object in writing or by e-mail within 14 days. If the objection cannot be resolved by the Executive Board, the member has the right to terminate his or her membership without notice.