

Senior Judge Requirements

Senior Judges are those who are qualified to judge seedlings and to work with candidate judges. An Accredited Judge may become a Senior Judge by meeting the following additional requirements:

1. Be a member of good standing of the ADS continuously.
2. Continue to grow and exhibit in ADS sanctioned shows virtually every year (minimum 4 of 5 years).
3. Serve at least four (4) year apprenticeship as an Accredited Judge and judge on a team with Senior Judges in at least eight ADS sanctioned shows.
4. Judge several seedling entries either at a Trial Garden or on the Seedling Bench to the satisfaction of the Judging Chair. The recommended number of seedlings is five per year but not less than 25 in five years.

Societies without seedling bench evaluation entries or trial gardens reasonably close may have the candidate Senior Judge fulfill their requirements by:

- a. Score, using the ADS score card, disseminated cultivars set up as seedling entries at the society show, training class, or seminar to the satisfaction of the Judging Chair.
 - b. A garden of a society member may be used for a garden scoring experience when two or more disseminated cultivars of the same variety are grown side by side provided there are 6-8 blooms and the scores are reviewed by the Judging Chair.
 - c. Judges must fulfill the requirement of judging several "entries". The recommended number of seedlings is five per year but not less than 25 in five years.
5. Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the team of Senior Judges, when judging seedlings, their ability to use the double and open center score cards properly in judging seedlings.

6. Be able to classify, by the current classification description, properly a seedling variety under consideration as to size, type and color.
7. Be able to name the current competition a seedling will compete against, either from memory or from the Classification Book.
8. Attend three judging seminar/training sessions during training period.
9. Satisfactorily take the Senior Judges test during training period.

Accredited Judges who judge 15-20 seedlings in a Trial Garden, Seedling Bench, or someone's back yard each year for three consecutive years may be advanced if all other requirements have been met.