2020 Young Professional Externship

National Recreation & Park Association Annual Conference

The Externship Program enables outstanding young professionals 35 years of age and younger in the parks and recreation field to interact with and learn from members of the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration, and other individuals who attend the NRPA Conference and its associated meetings. Up to four Externs are selected each year, of which two are Ernest T. Atwell diversity externships.

Externs are paired with Academy members who serve as mentors during the NRPA Conference.

Externs may attend selected NRPA Conference meetings, socials, and educational sessions with their mentors or on their own. Mentors introduce Externs to their contacts and expand the young professionals’ networks. After the NRPA Conference, Externs must write a brief evaluation report including: 1) an overview of activities they were involved in during Conference; 2) what they have gained from the program; and 3) strengths and weaknesses of the program, including suggestions for improvement. To fully participate in the program applicants should be prepared to make the externship experience a priority at the Conference.

EXTERN BENEFITS!
Selected externs each receive:

1. REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE 2020 NRPA ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION UP TO A $1,000 SCHOLARSHIP TO HELP COVER CONFERENCE EXPENSES

2. TRAVEL, IF THE PARTICIPANT’S HOME DEPARTMENT CANNOT COVER COSTS OR CAN ONLY COVER A PORTION OF THE COSTS AND

3. A TICKET FOR THE ACADEMY’S ANNUAL DINNER.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE
Eligible applicants should submit the enclosed application form and supporting materials no later than Friday, May 1, 2020. Applications must be submitted with two (2) letters of recommendation via e-mail as a single PDF.

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
- Must be a current member of NRPA.
- Must be 35 years of age and younger, with a degree in parks and recreation or a related field.
- At least three (3) years of full-time experience in the parks and recreation field, or parks and recreation academia. Must be full time not FTE.
- Current position of at least the specialist or coordinator level with responsibility for program planning, administration, or supervision; or doctoral student.
- Involvement with state, regional and/or national park and recreation associations/ societies, and related field organizations.
- Professional certification is preferred e.g. Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP) or Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) or be a certified/registered professional under an approved certification/credentialing program.
- Previous Academy Externs are not eligible.

*Age as of the closing day of the NRPA Conference
2020 Young Professional Externship
Sponsored by American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration

PLEASE TYPE

NAME: ________________________________ AGE: ________________

ADDRESS: ________________________________

CITY: ____________________ STATE: _______ ZIP: __________________

PHONE OFFICE: ____________________ PHONE CELL: ____________________

EMAIL: ________________________________

NPRA MEMBERSHIP #: __________________________

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<th>FULL-TIME WORK EXPERIENCE: IN PARKS AND RECREATION OR RELATED FIELD</th>
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Please describe responsibilities in your current position:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT:
Membership and leadership positions held in local, state, regional, and/or national organizations. Give date(s), organization(s), and position(s) held. List your most recent experience(s) first.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS: (check all that apply)
Certified Park and Recreational Professional (CPRP) ________ Expiration Date: __________
Certified Park and Recreation Executive (CPRE) ________ Expiration Date: __________
Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) ________ Expiration Date: __________
Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) ________ Expiration Date: __________
Aquatics Facility Operator (AFO) ________ Expiration Date: __________
Other __________________________ Expiration Date: __________

Additional Requirements (please attach to this completed form):
• Up-to-date resume
• Two (2) letters of recommendation (one from the Director of your agency, and one from a parks and recreation professional).
  If possible, letters of recommendation should not be from AAPRA Externship Committee members; and
• Essay (Typed 500-600 words -- 12 pt. Arial Font) indicating your motivation in seeking the Externship experience and how attending the 2020 NRPA Annual Conference will specifically help you achieve your career and personal goals. What do you plan to accomplish with the contacts you may make at the conference?

If selected as an AAPRA Extern for the 2020 NRPA Conference in Orlando, you agree to provide an evaluation report by email, no later than November 30, 2020 which will include:
• Overview of the activities in which you were involved during the NRPA Annual Conference
• What you gained from participation in the Extern program; and
• Your ideas about the strengths and weaknesses of the program, including suggestions for future improvement.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: __________________________ DATE: __________________________

Applications and recommendation/support letters must be received via email no later than Friday, May 1, 2020 at the address below. Please provide all materials in a single PDF file.

Robert Armistead, Member, AAPRA Externship Committee
Email: robert.armistead@traviscountytx.gov
512.854.9831

Optional Question: The Academy is committed to improving the diversity within the field of parks and recreation administration. You may choose to assist in these efforts by identifying what ethnic/racial group or groups apply to you: