



Serving Public Park & Recreation Professionals since 1951

- 2016/2017 Student Scholarship Application -
Southern Illinois Parks and Recreation Association (SIPRA)
H. George Whitehead Undergraduate/Graduate Student Scholarship
and Otto Rice Memorial Student Scholarship

IMPORTANT

This application must be postmarked by March 15, 2017.

GENERAL INFORMATION

On October 3, 2003, the Southern Illinois Park and Recreation Association (SIPRA) established and funded an educational grant/scholarship program designed to assist individuals who wish to further their educational endeavors. In October of 2008 SIPRA established the \$2,000 (now \$2,500) "Otto Rice Memorial" scholarship honoring a fellow park and recreation professional that died unexpectedly leaving a legacy of professional commitment to the Community Public Park and Recreation Profession. In January of 2017 SIPRA rededicated its Scholarship Program as the "H. George Whitehead Scholarship" in memory of our long-time member, colleague and friend, George Whitehead, who passed away in March, 2016.

Annually thereafter, once the money has been earmarked and set aside, and whenever a sufficient number of qualified applications have been received, no more than **(two \$1,000.00 scholarships)** and no more than **(one \$2,500 "Otto Rice Memorial" scholarship)** shall be awarded to undergraduate (juniors or seniors) or to masters' graduate students enrolled in four year university-level recreation curriculum or a masters level curriculum (pursuing a career in local community based Public Park and Recreation leisure services). (Not careers at hospitals, colleges, national forests, state or national parks, or campus recreation, etc.). SIPRA reserves the right to adjust the number of scholarships awarded. Additionally, all award recipients will receive a two-year SIPRA membership.

Payment of the awards will be made in two installments. The first half of the award will be mailed to the student scholarship recipient(s) on or before May, 2017. In order to receive the remainder of their award, the SIPRA Student Scholarship recipient(s) must be in attendance at either the SIPRA meeting scheduled for April 7, 2017 in Mt. Vernon, IL, or the SIPRA meeting scheduled for May 4, 2017 in Carbondale, Illinois.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be a junior, a senior, or a masters' candidate and must comply with the following:

- Have an academic and professional interest in the area of park, recreation, conservation, therapeutic recreation or other local community based Public Park and Recreation leisure services such as park districts, park and recreation departments and special recreation associations. Not hospitals, not colleges, not national forests, not state or national parks, not campus recreation, etc.
- Be in attendance and enrolled at a four year university-level park, recreation or leisure studies curriculum.
- Have a minimum overall 2.5 out of a 4.0 grade point average for all courses of study.
- Have a minimum 3.25 grade point average out of a 4.0 scale in required recreation courses of study.

AWARD CRITERIA

Applicants will be judged on academic achievement, related professional experiences, leadership, and demonstration of professional involvement.

TIMELINE

- February 2017: Distribute 2016/2017 SIPRA Student Scholarship applications.
- March 15, 2017: Postmark deadline for submittal of SIPRA Student Scholarship applications.
- March 25, 2017: SIPRA Student Scholarship committee receives/reviews applications.
- March 31, 2017: SIPRA Student Scholarship committee submits review tabulations.
- April 5, 2017: Notification/announcement of SIPRA Student Scholarship awards.
- April 15, 2017: Mail first half of the 2016/2017 scholarship awards.
- Distribute second half of 2016/2017 scholarship award at one of the following SIPRA meetings: April 7, 2017 in Mt. Vernon, IL OR May 4, 2017 in Carbondale, IL.
- SIPRA reserves the right to amend this schedule if/as needed.

REQUIRED INFORMATION

1. Complete the application form electronically. Hand written applications will not be considered.
2. Sign and date the application.
3. Obtain your academic advisor's signature and date on the application.
4. Submit a copy of the student's unofficial university transcript with the application. First year master's students must submit their undergraduate transcript.
5. Submit your current unofficial resume with the application.
6. Attach the essay responses to the back of the application. See page 7 for more information.
7. Application must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2017 (to the address listed below).

MAILING ADDRESS

SIPRA Student Scholarship Application
C/O Mark Badasch
SIPRA Member Services
300 West Country Lane
Collinsville, IL 62234

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, please email: Mark Badasch, SIPRA Member Services at: mark4park@gmail.com

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**Southern Illinois Parks and Recreation Association (SIPRA)
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- 2016/2017 Student Scholarship Application Form -

Name: _____

Permanent "Home" Address: _____

School Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

Home Town Newspaper: _____ Phone: _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

College or University attending: _____

Major Area of Study (check one): Community Parks & Rec Community Outdoor
 Community TR Community Commercial Other: _____

Current Year in School: Junior Senior 1st Year Masters Student 2nd Year Masters Student

Current "overall" Grade Point Average: _____ on a Scale of: _____

Current "major" Grade Point Average: _____ on a Scale of: _____

APPLICANT CERTIFICATION

- I am pursuing a career in local community based public park and recreation leisure services.
- The information provided in this document is accurate and reflects my educational and work experiences.
- I understand that within six months of the receipt of funding, SIPRA Scholarship recipients must provide to SIPRA an accounting of how scholarship funds were expended; SIPRA Student Scholarship funds are intended to support educational, scholarly or professional-enrichment pursuits; and should the SIPRA Student Scholarship Committee determine that recipient spent SIPRA funds in a manner inconsistent with the intended use, the recipient may be asked to reimburse SIPRA for funds spent inappropriately.
- I understand that if any of the information is found to be untrue, my application will not be considered.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

ADVISOR CERTIFICATION

- Have your academic advisor read your application and sign below.

I have read this application and hereby attest in signing this form that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided by the applicant is accurate and truthful.

Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

RELATED PAID WORK EXPERIENCES

List an experience only once, e.g. coach, program leader, counselor, umpire, life guard, concessions attendant, park/golf/building maintenance, building attendant, program supervisor, etc. In describing the experience, note the following:

1. Supervisory responsibilities, e.g. supervision of staff and/or work completed by others.
2. Leadership responsibilities, e.g. responsible for planning or leading children or adults in leisure activities.
3. Innovative techniques, services or programs that you developed or implemented.

Work Experiences: The applicant should only describe paid work experiences in the areas of recreation leadership, sports, aquatics, parks, commercial, outdoor, conservation, therapeutic, etc.

Experience 1 Position: _____ Supervisor: _____
Agency: _____ Town/State: _____
Estimated # of hours worked: _____ Dates: _____

Description of duties, responsibilities and skills acquired which will be relevant to a career in Parks and Recreation:

Experience 2 Position: _____ Supervisor: _____
Agency: _____ Town/State: _____
Estimated # of hours worked: _____ Dates: _____

Description of duties, responsibilities and skills acquired which will be relevant to a career in Parks and Recreation:

Experience 3 Position: _____ Supervisor: _____
Agency: _____ Town/State: _____
Estimated # of hours worked: _____ Dates: _____

Description of duties, responsibilities and skills acquired which will be relevant to a career in Parks and Recreation:

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE / INVOLVEMENT

List an experience only once, e.g. coach, program leader, counselor, umpire, life guard, concessions attendant, park/golf maintenance, building attendant, program supervisor, etc. The applicant should only describe volunteer experiences in the area of recreation leadership, parks and planning, conservation, or therapeutic recreation. Please do not include honorary positions or club/social activities. In describing the experience, note the following:

1. Supervisory responsibilities, e.g. supervision of staff and/or work completed by others.
2. Leadership responsibilities, e.g. responsible for planning or leading children or adults in leisure activities.
3. Innovative techniques, services or programs that you developed or implemented.

Experience 1 Position: _____ Supervisor: _____

Agency: _____ Town/State: _____

Estimated # of hours worked: _____ Dates: _____

Description of duties, responsibilities and skills acquired which will be relevant to a career in Parks and Recreation:

Experience 2 Position: _____ Supervisor: _____

Agency: _____ Town/State: _____

Estimated # of hours worked: _____ Dates: _____

Description of duties, responsibilities and skills acquired which will be relevant to a career in Parks and Recreation:

Experience 3 Position: _____ Supervisor: _____

Agency: _____ Town/State: _____

Estimated # of hours worked: _____ Dates: _____

Description of duties, responsibilities and skills acquired which will be relevant to a career in Parks and Recreation:

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE / INVOLVEMENT

List an experience, e.g. coaching coordinator, programs coordinator, counselor coordinator, umpires coordinator, life guards supervisor, concessions supervisor, park/golf/building maintenance supervisor, building supervisor, program supervisor, etc. In describing the experience, note the following:

1. Supervisory responsibilities, e.g. supervision of staff and/or work completed by others.
2. Leadership responsibilities, e.g. responsible for planning or leading children or adults in leisure activities.
3. Innovative techniques, services or programs that you developed or implemented.

In this area the applicant should describe any offices they may have held in clubs, fraternities, civic organizations, etc. Volunteer experiences unrelated to parks and recreation field may also be described here.

Experience 1 Position: _____ Supervisor: _____

Agency: _____ Town/State: _____

Estimated # of hours worked: _____ Dates: _____

Description of duties, responsibilities and skills acquired which will be relevant to a career in Parks and Recreation:

Experience 2 Position: _____ Supervisor: _____

Agency: _____ Town/State: _____

Estimated # of hours worked: _____ Dates: _____

Description of duties, responsibilities and skills acquired which will be relevant to a career in Parks and Recreation:

Experience 1 Position: _____ Supervisor: _____

Agency: _____ Town/State: _____

Estimated # of hours worked: _____ Dates: _____

Description of duties, responsibilities and skills acquired which will be relevant to a career in Parks and Recreation:

HONORS, AWARDS OR SCHOLARSHIPS

Please list any honors, awards or scholarships you have received at the college level. Include a brief description of the award including the name of the organization presenting the award and the reason for receiving the award.

ESSAY QUESTIONS

Provide your response to both essay questions listed below. Please use your own paper for the responses and print each response separately. Responses should be no more than two pages long (per response). Please use double spaced 11 pt. Calibri font. Attach both responses to the end of your application packet.

1. Why did you choose community based public park and recreation leisure services as your major?
2. How do you plan to apply the information learned and experienced at your University to obtain your future career goals?