South Suburban Park & Recreation
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Mission Statement

To enhance the quality of leisure services to participants of member park districts and recreation agencies located in the south suburban Chicago Metropolitan area through professional leadership, interaction, diverse programming, education/training sessions, legislative issues and special projects that will continually benefit all those whom they serve.

2026 Undergraduate Student Scholarship Application $500

General Information

The South Suburban Park and Recreation Professional Association established an educational scholarship to assist students in furthering their educational endeavors. A $ 500.00 scholarship is available to a full-time student pursuing a degree in the field of park, recreation, conservation, therapeutic recreation, massage therapy, and/or leisure services. Applicants will be judged on academic achievement, related professional experiences, leadership and demonstration of professional involvement. Payment of the award will be made to the scholarship recipient at the December 10, 2026 SSPRPA Meeting.

Eligibility

Applicant must:

- Be a student member of the South Suburban Park and Recreation Professional Association at the time of application for this scholarship. (applications at ssprpa.org).
- Be currently pursuing a degree in the field of park, recreation, conservation, therapeutic recreation, massage therapy, and/or leisure services.
- Show proof of enrollment in a college or university level parks and recreation program by providing transcripts. (Seniors must have proof of enrollment in graduate studies the following year).
- Carry a minimum of 2.5/4.0 or 3.0/5.0 grade point average for all courses of study.

Application Process

1. Complete the application form.
2. Sign the application.
3. Have the department head or faculty member sign the application to verify student status and grade point average.
4. Include a resume outlining academic achievement, related professional experiences, leadership and demonstration of professional involvement.
5. Include a brief personal statement describing why they should receive the award.
6. Include one letter of recommendation from employer or professor in the field of parks and recreation.
7. Include proof of enrollment by providing transcripts.
8. Application must be postmarked by November 20, 2026
9. Mail or e-mail application, personal statement, resume and letter of recommendation to the chairperson listed below.

Marina Uher, CTRS, CPRP
Superintendent of Recreation
South West Special Recreation Association
12521 S. Kostner
Alsip, IL 60803
muher@swsra.com

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2026 Undergraduate Student Scholarship Application

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

University or College: _____

GPA: _____ On a Scale of: _____

Major Area of Study: _____

Current Year in School _____ Sophomore _____ Junior _____ Senior

Students Printed Name: _____

Students Signature: _____Date _____

Department Head/Faculty Signature: _____Date_____
(I have read this application and agree, to the best of my knowledge that the information provided is accurate)

Application must be postmarked or received via e-mail by November 20, 2026 to:

Marina Uher, CTRS, CPRP
Superintendent of Recreation
South West Special Recreation Association
12521 S. Kostner
Alsip, IL 60803
muher@swsra.com