

2008 NRPA Congress

Baltimore, Maryland - October 14 – 18, 2008

2008 Young Professionals Externship

National Recreation & Park Association Congress

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, and other individuals who attend the NRPA Congress and its associated meetings. Up to four Externs are selected each year, in which two are Ernest T. Atwell diversity externships.

Externs are paired with Academy members who serve as mentors during the NRPA Congress. Externs may attend selected NRPA Congress meetings, socials, and educational sessions with their mentors or on their own. Mentors help introduce Externs to their contacts and widen the young professionals' networks. After the Congress, Externs must write a brief evaluation report including 1) an overview of the activities they were involved in during the Congress; 2) what they have gained from the program; and 3) strengths and weaknesses of the program, along with suggestions for future improvement.

Extern Benefits

Selected externs each receive 1) free registration for the 2008 NRPA Congress; 2) up to a \$500 scholarship to help cover conference expenses and 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 Procedures

Eligible applicants should submit the enclosed application form and supporting materials no later than Monday, June 16, 2008. Applications must be submitted with a letter of recommendation from the Director of their Department or an Academy member.

Minimum Eligibility Criteria

1. Age 35 years or younger.
2. Degree in parks and recreation or a related field.
3. At least three years of full-time experience in the parks and recreation field or in a related field.
4. Current position of at least the specialist or coordinator level with responsibility for program planning, administration, or supervision.
5. Involvement with state, regional and/or national park and recreation associations/societies, and related field organizations.
6. Hold designation as a Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP) or be a registered professional under an approved certification program.
7. Previous Academy Externs are not eligible.

Sponsored By:
American Academy for
Park and Recreation
Administration

- For outstanding young professionals 35 years old and younger.
- Free NRPA Congress registration, plus up to \$500 for travel and expenses.
- Meet leaders in the field of parks and recreation.

Information/Application

Applications will be available
after 4/1/08

at

www.aapra.org

or

Jody.Stowers@westerville.org

Deadline:

Applications and support materials
must be received no later than
Monday, June 16, 2008.

Submit completed application to:

Jody Stowers, Chair, AAPRA
Externship Committee,
Westerville Parks and Recreation
Department
350 N. Cleveland Ave.
Westerville, OH 43082