

The American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration

Leadership of and for the Profession

Since 1980

What is the Academy (AAPRA)?











American Academy
for Park & Recreation Administration









American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration

One of the “BEST Kept Secrets” in the Industry!

- Limited to 125 active Fellows (practitioners, urban directors & educators)
- Serves as a “Think Tank” that includes some of the most experienced and brightest professionals & educators in the Parks and Recreation profession!
- Heavily focused on valuable committee work that is completed with colleagues from around the country

American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration

AAPRA's Vision

To inspire, influence and advance the and recreation profession



AAPRA's Mission

An Academy of distinguished park and recreation administrators committed to research, professional development, and use of best practices

American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration

Our Purposes:



- To advance knowledge related to the administration of public parks and recreation

- To encourage scholarly efforts by practitioners and educators to enhance the practice of public parks and recreation to the public good

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Our Purposes:



- To promote broader public understanding of the importance of public parks and recreation to the public good

- To conduct research, publish scholarly papers and/or sponsor seminars related to the advancement of public parks and recreation administration

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AAPRA Specialized Programs

- Commission on Accreditation of Park & Recreation Agencies (CAPRA)
- National Gold Medal Awards Program
- Legends in Parks & Recreation
- Honorable Cornelius Amory Pugsley Medal in Parks and Conservation
- Professional Development Scholarships and Mentoring emerging professionals

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Be a Leader Among Your Peers – Three Options…Externship, Mentoring, or Membership

Externship Program – Short Term Mentoring/Networking Opportunity focused at NRPA conferences

Benefits:

- Reimbursement of up to $1,000 scholarship to cover NRPA conference expenses
- Travel if the participant's home department cannot cover costs, or can only cover portion of the costs
- Ticket the Academy's Annual Dinner

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Externship Requirements

- Must be 36 years of age
- Have a minimum of three years of full-time experience
- Involvement in state or national park & recreation associations
- Professional certification preferred
- Applications available in March (www.aapra.org)



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Mentoring Program

- In concert with NRPA's YPN & Administrators Network
- Assigned a mentor for 3-6 month period
  - May connect at NRPA conference if both attend
- No financial commitment
- No age limit
- Connect one-on-one and at your own pace
- Applications typically taken in June

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Becoming a Member…



- Serve in a high-level position (director, executive director, deputy director, superintendent and/or administrator) for no less than 15 years
- Hold a BA or BS degree
- Be recognized as a leader in the park and recreation field with a demonstrated record of active leadership in local, state, regional or national professional organizations

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Becoming a Member…

- Record of contributing through writing and speaking appearances
- Record of contributing significant services, programs and projects having a substantial impact on the community or the profession (community development, economic impact, etc.)
- Professional certifications
- Honors/Awards – agency and/or individual (state or national level)

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Becoming a Member…

- Complete an application for membership
- Nominator's Statement
- Nominee's Statement
- Support Letters (2) from current Academy members
- Nomination packet typically due early June



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Head to our Website to Learn More!

- Visit www.aapra.org
- Find out who are the current members!
- Check out our partners, research, committee work, etc.
- If you have any questions, please contact info@aapra.org or 206.823.3164

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