

Michigan Intramural-Recreational Sports Association 2009-2010 Professional Scholarship Program

This program has been developed to provide professionals employed at in-state institutions financial assistance in attending state, regional, and national workshops and conferences. This program provides the state association opportunities to offer recognition to those professionals who excel within the MIRSA and NIRSA as well as their individual institution.

The intent of this program is to provide professionals with opportunities for personal and professional growth through their involvement in the MIRSA and NIRSA organizations.

Scholarship Eligibility

To be considered for scholarship awards during the 2009-2010 academic year, those applying must meet the following criteria.

Young Professional Scholarship (1-5 years within the field of Recreational Services)

- Be currently employed full time within a recreational services program
- Be a current member within the MIRSA organization a minimum of 1 year.
- Be a current member within the NIRSA organization a minimum of 3 years.
- Complete and submit the attached application electronically.

MIRSA Professional Leadership Scholarship (6+ years within the field of Recreational Services)

- Be currently employed full time within a recreational services program
- Serves or served the MIRSA organization in some capacity which could include holding an executive office, chairing a committee, and/or providing leadership to the organization.
- Be a current member within the MIRSA organization a minimum of 3 years.
- Be a current Professional Member within the NIRSA organization a minimum of 6 years.

DEADLINES for applications

October 9, 2009 at midnight to be considered for events that occur between October 2009 and September 2010.

Young Professional Scholarship Selection Criteria

- Must meet all eligibility requirements to be considered for selection.
- Candidates will be rated equally based on the applicant's service to the MIRSA organization, involvement within NIRSA, and demonstrated leadership in the field of recreational services.
- Candidates will also be asked to provide a brief narrative on personal qualities, reasons for attending or involvement in a particular workshop, and why he/she should be considered for selection.

MIRSA Professional Leadership Scholarship Selection Criteria

- Must meet all eligibility requirements to be considered for selection.
- Candidates will be rated equally based on the applicant's service to the MIRSA organization, involvement within NIRSA, and demonstrated leadership in the field of recreational services.
- Candidates will also be asked to provide brief narrative on personal qualities, examples of leadership within the organization, reasons for attending or involvement in a particular workshop, and why he/she should be considered for selection.

Selection Committee

The selection committee, in the academic year 2009-2010, will consist of current members of the MIRSA Scholarship Committee. The Scholarship Committee in the future will continue to select recipients but will consist of professional members of the MIRSA appointed by the MIRSA State Director. The State Director will act as an ex officio member, voting only to break any ties that occur during the selection process.

Number, Dollar Amount, and Use of Awards

The number and amount of awards offered annually may vary and is determined by the financial state of the scholarship fund. A minimum of (1) Young Professional and (1) Professional Leadership Scholarship will be given per year. Additional scholarship decisions will be left to the discretion of the MIRSA Executive Board and Scholarship Committee.

Professionals may use the award to attend various MIRSA or NIRSA conferences and workshops.

Those included at this time are:

- NIRSA Annual Conference and Recreational Sports Exposition
- MIRSA State Workshop
- Region III Student Lead On
- Emerging Recreational Sports Leaders Conference
- NIRSA sponsored symposiums/institutes
- National School of Recreational Sports Management

Applicants are limited to receiving (1) MIRSA scholarship award within a two year period.

Obligations of Recipients

- All applications must be submitted electronically.
- Recipients must attend the workshop/conference or forfeit their scholarship.
- Recipients must notify the Chair of the Scholarship Committee no later than two weeks after the award has been given of their commitment to attend the workshop or conference. This notification must be in writing; an email correspondence is acceptable.
- MIRSA will provide payment for the early bird registration for the workshop or conference. All paperwork and registration forms must be turned into the MIRSA Scholarship Committee Chair a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the early bird deadline in order for the payment to be completed.
- Recipients are required to serve in a volunteer capacity a minimum of two hours while attending the workshop or conference of their choice. Examples include: work the registration tables, help at a social, or monitor a session.
- Recipients may be requested to assist in the evaluation of the scholarship process.

MIRSA Scholarship Committee

Attn: Demond Pryor, University Recreation; 200 SAC; Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859 pryor1dl@cmich.edu