

# SOUTHERN ILLINOIS PARKS and RECREATION ASSOCIATION

(SERVING PUBLIC PARK & RECREATION PROFESSIONALS SINCE 1951)

SIPRA 2015 Undergraduate/Graduate

## STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

December 9, 2014

### 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 “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.

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 **four \$1,000.00 scholarships** and no more than **one \$2500 “Otto Rice Memorial” scholarship** shall be awarded to **undergraduate (juniors or seniors) or to masters’ graduate students enrolled in four year university-level recreation curricula or a masters level curricula pursuing a career in local community based Public Park and Recreation leisure services.**

(Not hospitals, not colleges, not national forests, not state or national parks, not campus recreation, etc.)

**In addition to the monetary award, all award recipients will receive a two-year SIPRA membership.**

**(One – four \$1,000 scholarships) and one (\$2,500 “Otto Rice Memorial” scholarship) may be awarded in this 2015 school cycle.)**

**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 March 16, 2015.

**In order to receive the remainder of their award, the SIPRA Student Scholarship recipient(s) must be in attendance at the SIPRA meetings scheduled for May 1, 2015 in Wood River, Illinois.**

### Eligibility

Student scholarship applicant 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 their required recreation major courses of study.

### **Award Criteria**

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

### **Application Process (All 5 items below must be completed as specified to be considered)**

1. **Complete the application form using word processing. Students may use their own word processing program instead of the application form. However, the student is required to present their application in the same format, and approximate spacing as the original application.**  
**HAND WRITTEN APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**
2. **Sign and date the application.**
3. **Obtain academic advisor signature and date on the application.**
4. **Submit a copy the student's unofficial university transcript with application; usually available online to the student.**  
**(First year graduate students must submit their undergraduate transcript)**
5. Application must be postmarked no later than February 16, 2015 and sent to:

**SIPRA Student Scholarship Application  
C/O George Whitehead, SIPRA Member Services  
2900 West Kent Drive  
Carbondale, IL 62901-1923**

To receive an electronic copy or if you have any questions, please email:  
George Whitehead, SIPRA Member Services at:

[sipramemberservices@gmail.com](mailto:sipramemberservices@gmail.com)

# SOUTHERN ILLINOIS PARKS and RECREATION ASSOCIATION

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## SIPRA 2015 Undergraduate/Graduate Student Scholarship & the SIPRA “Otto Rice Memorial” Scholarship Timeline

- 9 DEC 2014** – Distribute 2015 Application to Illinois Recreation Faculty
- 16 FEB 2015** – **Postmark deadline for submittal of SIPRA Student Scholarship applications**
- 20 FEB 2015** – SIPRA Student Scholarship review committee receives application copies and begins independent review.
- 4 MAR 2015** – No later than this date the SIPRA Student Scholarship review committee shall complete independent review of applicants documents and submits review tabulations determining the recipients for scholarship awards & make suggestions for application and review tool improvements.
- 9 MAR 2015** – No later than this date the committee shall notify college and university departments and each SIPRA Student Scholarship award recipient.
- 16 MAR 2015** – Mail first half of the 2015 scholarship funding.

Distribute second half of 2015 SIPRA Student Scholarship award at the following SIPRA Membership meeting attended by all of the recipient(s):

- 1 MAY 2015** – Wood River Parks & Recreation, Wood River, Illinois

**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS PARK AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION**  
**SIPRA 2015 Undergraduate/Graduate & “Otto Rice Memorial”**  
**Student Scholarship Application**

**Applicant Information Form – Submit your resume` with application**

Name:

Permanent “Home” Address:

School Address:

Cell Phone: (      )

Home Phone: (      )

Email:

Email:

Home Town Newspaper:

Phone: (      )

**Academic Information**

College or University attending:

Major Area of Study (Community, TR, outdoor, commercial, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_ Community Parks & Recreation

\_\_\_\_ Community TR      \_\_\_\_ Community Outdoor      \_\_\_\_ Community Commercial      \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Current Year in School: (X One) \_\_\_\_ Junior    \_\_\_\_ Senior    \_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> Year Masters Student    \_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Masters Student

Current “overall” Grade Point Average: \_\_\_\_\_ on a Scale of: \_\_\_\_\_ (1<sup>st</sup> Year Masters Grad Students are to submit their Undergrad unofficial transcript & GPA)

Current “major” Grade Point Average: \_\_\_\_\_ on a Scale of: \_\_\_\_\_ (1<sup>st</sup> Year Masters Grad Students are to submit their Undergrad unofficial transcript & GPA)

**Applicant Certification**

1. **I am pursuing a career in local community based public park and recreation leisure services.**
2. The information provided in this document is accurate and reflects my educational and work experiences.
3. I understand that: A) within six (6) months of the receipt of funding, SIPRA Student Scholarship recipients must provide to the SIPRA Student Scholarship Committee an accounting of how scholarship funds were expended; B) SIPRA Student Scholarship funds are intended to support educational, scholarly or professional-enrichment pursuits; and C) 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 that portion of the scholarship spent inappropriately.
4. I understand that if any of the information is found to be untrue, my application will not be reviewed by the SIPRA Student Scholarship Review Committee.

Applicant’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Advisor’s 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 (coach, program leader, counselor, umpire, life guard, concessions attendant, park/golf/building maintenance, building attendant, program supervisor, etc.) only once and use only the space provided. In describing the experience, consider the following:

1. Note supervisory responsibilities (Supervision of employees/staff/volunteers, responsible for the direction of work and tasks to be completed by others).
2. Note Leadership responsibilities (Responsible for planning or leading children or adults in leisure activities).
3. Note innovative techniques, services or programs that you personally 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:

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**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:

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**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:

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## Volunteer Experience / Involvement

List an experience only once (coach, program leader, counselor, umpire, life guard, concessions attendant, park/golf/building maintenance, building attendant, program supervisor, etc.) and use only the space provided. In describing the experience, consider the following:

1. Note supervisory responsibilities (Supervision of employees/staff, responsible for the direction of work and tasks to be completed by others).
2. Note leadership responsibilities (Responsible for planning or leading children or adults in leisure activities).
3. Note innovative techniques, services or programs that you developed or implemented.

**Related Volunteer Experiences:** 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.

**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 (coaching coordinator, programs coordinator, counselor coordinator, umpires coordinator, life guards supervisor, concessions supervisor, park/golf/building maintenance supervisor, building supervisor, program supervisor, etc.) only once and use only the space provided. In describing the experience, consider the following:

1. Note supervisory responsibilities (Supervision of employees/staff, responsible for the direction of work and tasks to be completed by others).
2. Note leadership responsibilities (Responsible for planning or leading children or adults in leisure activities).
3. Note innovative techniques, services or programs that you developed or implemented.

**Leadership Opportunities:** In this area the applicant should describe any offices they may have held in clubs, fraternities, civic organizations, etc. Volunteer experiences unrelated to parks & 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:

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**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:

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**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:

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## **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**

**Please state your response to the following two questions:**

**1. "Why did you choose community based public park and recreation leisure services as your major?"**

**Your answer shall follow the following presentation format:**

- a. Cover page with Title and Applicant Name.
- b. The body of your essay shall be double spaced, Times New Roman font and 12 point type or Calibri font and 11 point type, and shall be no more than two pages long.

**2. "How do you plan to apply the information learned and experienced at your University to obtain your future career goals?"**

**Your answer shall follow the following presentation format:**

- a. Cover page with Title and Applicant Name.
- b. The body of your essay shall be double spaced, Times New Roman font and 12 point type or Calibri font and 11 point type, and shall be no more than two pages long.