

The Future Scholars Program

The purpose of the ALS Future Scholars Program is to provide graduate students who are interested in pursuing a doctorate in an area related to recreation and leisure studies the opportunity to meet some of the outstanding researchers and scholars in this field by attending the National Recreation and Park Association Congress.

Eligibility

Individuals who meet the following criteria are eligible to apply.

- Completed or currently enrolled in a masters degree program but not yet committed to doctoral study at a particular university;
- Maintained a grade point average of at least 3.0 during undergraduate and graduate studies;
- Not enrolled in a doctoral program at time of application nor at time of the Congress;
- Plans to initiate doctoral studies within the next three years;
- Interested in pursuing a doctoral degree in recreation and parks, leisure studies, tourism, or recreation resource management;
- Can attend the NRPA Annual Congress in the year in which the award is received.

Selection Criteria

Future scholars are selected from among all applicants with consideration of the following criteria.

- Academic ability (based on GPA and faculty sponsor letter).
- Indications of scholarly potential in this field (based on publications, presentations, research experience, applicant's cover letter, and/or faculty sponsor letter).
- Strength of intention to pursue doctoral studies in a leisure-related subject (based on applicant's cover letter and faculty sponsor letter).
- General level of professionalism (based on format and depth of application materials, presentation of written materials, and professional involvement).