



Initial Certification Application Form



Applicant Information

First Name: _____ MI: _____ Last Name: _____

*The name listed above must match the photo ID you will provide to the testing administrator. Acceptable forms of photo identification include: a current driver's license with photograph, a current state identification card with photograph, a current passport, or a current military identification card with photograph. Employment ID cards, student ID cards, and any types of temporary identification **are not** acceptable.

Address (please circle-Work/Home) _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

NRPA Member Yes # _____ No

Do you have a disability that would require special accommodations for taking the examination? Yes No
If yes, please complete the Special Accommodation Request Form, available at www.nrpa.org/cprp

Certification Fees and Payment Information

(Application fees include the \$200 examination fee and the respective application fee. Fees are non-refundable)

NRPA Member Rate-\$270.00

Non-NRPA Member Rate-\$314.00

Student Rate - \$250.00

(Must include unofficial transcript showing current full time student status)

Please make checks payable to: National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)	
<input type="radio"/> Check	Credit Card: <input type="radio"/> Visa <input type="radio"/> MasterCard <input type="radio"/> American Express <input type="radio"/> Discover
Credit Card Number: _____	Expiration Date: _____
Name on Credit Card: _____	CVV: _____
Signature: _____	
Billing Address: _____	



CPRP Eligibility Standards

- ****Candidate must have received or is set to receive a bachelor’s degree from a Council on Accreditation, Parks, Recreation and Tourism Studies (COAPRT) accredited program and pass the CPRP examination; OR**
- Candidate must hold a bachelor’s degree *or higher* from a regionally accredited education institution (without COAPRT accreditation), with a major in recreation, park resources, or a related profession and no less than *the equivalent of 1 year* full-time experience in a recreation, park resources or a related position, and pass the CPRP examination; **OR**
- Candidate must hold bachelor’s degree or higher from a regionally accredited educational institution, with a major other than recreation, park resources, or a related profession and no less than *the equivalent of 3 years* full-time experience in a recreation, park resources or a related position, and candidate must pass the CPRP examination; **OR**
- Candidate must hold an Associate degree from a regionally accredited educational institution, and no less than *the equivalent of 4 years* of full-time experience in a recreation, park resources or a related position, and pass the CPRP examination; **OR**
- Candidate must hold a high school diploma or equivalency certificate and have no less than *the equivalent of 5 years* full-time experience in a recreation, park resources or a related position, and pass the CPRP examination.

****Students who have not yet graduated from a COAPRT accredited program with a major in recreation, park resources and leisure services, but are in their final semester on campus, may be able to qualify for exam status. They may complete the CPRP exam prior to the completion of the internship requirement and academic degree attainment. Certification may be granted upon passing the CPRP exam and after submission of official transcript/documentation verifying graduation.**

(Proof of eligibility standards in the form of qualifying documentation is not required at the time of initial application; some applications will be selected for audit to ensure the accuracy and validity of the data provided)

Academic Education Information

Level of Education

Visit www.nrpa.org/cprp for a full list of eligibility standards

- High School Diploma or equivalent Associates Bachelor’s Degree Master’s Degree or higher

Name of Institution: _____

Major: _____

City, State: _____

Diploma or degree received on: _____ / _____ / _____
Month Day Year

(Please contact certification@nrpa.org verify COAPRT accredited programs)



Qualifying Work Experience

All CPRP candidates must have met a standard set of competencies before sitting for the CPRP certification examination. All CPRP candidates must have professional experience in all areas listed below in a recreation, park resources or a related position to meet those standards.

Please see Additional Resources (Pages 6-7) for a list of acceptable job tasks in each competency area. Circle all that apply:

Finance	Yes	No
Human Resources	Yes	No
Operations	Yes	No
Programming	Yes	No
Communication	Yes	No

Include all positions that apply. Work experience is defined by your employer. Alternatives to full-time employment include the following:

- *Part-time /Seasonal/Temporary Employment - 1 year of employment is equivalent to 6-months of full-time employment*
- *Seasonal/Temporary Employment - accepted as supplemental work experience only, must be supplied in conjunction with 1-year full-time experience in a recreation, park resources and leisure services position*
- *Consultants – experience should be accompanied by three letters of reference*

Most Recent Qualifying Position:

Candidate Job Title: _____

Agency: _____

Agency Address/City/State: _____

Name & Title of Supervisor: _____ Phone: _____

Dates of Employment (M/Y) _____ to _____

Employment status:

Full-time _____ Part-time _____ Seasonal _____ Other (please identify): _____



Previous Qualifying Position(s):

Candidate Job Title: _____

Agency: _____

Agency Address/City/State: _____

Name & Title of Supervisor: _____ Phone: _____

Dates of Employment (M/Y) _____ to _____

Employment status:

Full-time _____ Part-time _____ Seasonal _____ Other (please identify): _____

Candidate Job Title: _____

Agency: _____

Agency Address/City/State: _____

Name & Title of Supervisor: _____ Phone: _____

Dates of Employment (M/Y) _____ to _____

Employment status:

Full-time _____ Part-time _____ Seasonal _____ Other (please identify): _____

Candidate Job Title: _____

Agency: _____

Agency Address/City/State: _____

Name & Title of Supervisor: _____ Phone: _____

Dates of Employment (M/Y) _____ to _____

Employment status:

Full-time _____ Part-time _____ Seasonal _____ Other (please identify): _____



Codes of Conduct, Disclosure, and Attestations

- In submitting this application, I fully understand that this application does not guarantee certification.
- I agree to comply with all CPRP program policies as outlined in the CPRP&E Policies and Procedures Manual and CPRP Candidate Handbook and supply further information as determined by the NRPA staff, the CPRP&E Certification Committee and/or the National Certification Board. I understand and attest that I will, now and in the future, adhere to the Code of Conduct as outlined in the CPRP&E Policy and Procedure Manual. I further understand that false information submitted will provide the basis for withdrawal of certification
- I understand the National Certification Board reserves the right to revise or update all policies, procedures, and the code of conduct related to the CPRP&E programs and that it is my responsibility to be aware of these current requirements. I further understand that it is my responsibility to provide any requested documentation in connection with this application.
- I understand and agree that if I am certified following acceptance of this application and successful completion of the examination, such certification does not constitute a warranty or guarantee of my fitness or competency to practice as a park and recreation professional.
- I understand and agree that the National Certification Board and NRPA may also use anonymous and aggregate application and examination data for statistical and research purposes. I authorize NRPA and the National Certification Board to release my contact information and current certification status to appropriate park and recreation leadership, the media, and the general public.

NRPA offers a complete list of certified professionals (name, city, state and email) through our online certification registry.

This information is public information, if you do not wish to have your email posted on the registry please check this box

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Return application and payment information to:

National Recreation and Park Association
ATTN: Certification Staff
22377 Belmont Ridge Rd
Ashburn, VA 20148



Additional Resources

Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP) Core Competencies:

(Qualifying Candidates must have experience with one or more job task under each core competency to qualify)

Finance

- Collect financial and/or operating data (e.g., attendance, revenues, expenditures)
- Implement cash handling practices (e.g., retail sales, rentals, fee collection, deposits, petty cash)
- Purchase supplies, equipment, and services for program activities
- Prepare requests for alternative support (e.g., grants, donations, sponsorships, in-kind services, matching funds)
- Research sources of alternative support (e.g., grants, donations, sponsorships, in-kind services, matching funds)
- Conduct cost recovery analysis for a specific area in order to recommend fee schedules
- Manage area specific contracts
- Develop and implement fee collection procedures
- Recommend fee schedules & policies
- Communicate budget needs to supervisor
- Prepare budget for areas of responsibility
- Operate within an existing budget
- Initiate the bid process for commodities and capital acquisitions and improvements (e.g., obtain and approve specifications for RFPs and requisitions, comply with purchasing requirements)
- Prepare financial analyses and reports (e.g., reconciliation of revenues, cost recovery analysis, budget justification, trend analysis)

Human Resources

- Develop job descriptions
- Recruit candidates for seasonal/part time employment & contracts
- Review candidate applications for seasonal/part time employment & contracts
- Select and recommend candidates for seasonal/part time employees & contractors
- Interview candidates for seasonal/part time employment & contracts
- Conduct training for seasonal/part time employees & contractors
- Design and conduct training for staff, board members, advocacy groups, sports officials, volunteers, etc.
- Develop work schedules for seasonal/part time employees & contractors
- Supervise/manage seasonal/part time employees & independent contractors
- Evaluate seasonal/part time employee performance (e.g., develop goals, recommendations, work plans)



Human Resources (Cont.)

- Administer disciplinary action (other than termination) for seasonal/part time employees & contractors
- Make recommendations for retention, renewal, dismissal, or termination of seasonal/part time employees & contractors
- Manage volunteers (recruits, retention, schedules, evaluates, recognition)
- Conduct hiring process for new employees (recruit, review applications, interview, hire)
- Enforce the policies and procedures of the human resources department or union
- Evaluate personnel performance (e.g., develop goals, recommendations, work plans)
- Manage time cards, payroll, and/or employee records
- Perform personnel actions (e.g., disciplinary actions, coaching, recognitions, terminating, grievances)
- Supervise interns and employees

Operations

- Manage contract agreements with independent contractors
- Conduct assessment of specific programs, areas, products, services
- Conduct inventories of assets, equipment, and supplies
- Conduct inventories of programs (internal and external) being offered
- Establish relationships with outside organizations (e.g., leagues, associations, clubs, non-profits, school districts, faith-based organizations, advocacy/friends groups)
- Collaborate with related organizations (e.g., leagues, school districts, other districts/departments, state and federal environmental/natural resource agencies, state affiliates, professional associations)
- Follow energy efficient and environmentally friendly procedures (e.g., disposal methods, purchasing of efficient supplies, Green initiatives, LEED, recycling)
- Implement maintenance standards (e.g., perform or request troubleshooting, routine maintenance, preventative maintenance, repairs or replacement)
- Stay current with changes in applicable regulatory agency policies
- Maintain information systems (e.g., enter data, use permits, reservations, registrations, equipment use records)
- Provide direct supervision of specific facilities and areas (e.g., opening, routine, and closing inspections, monitor activities)
- Provide input for updating standard operating procedures/manuals
- Provide reasonable accessibility accommodations
- Analyze operating data (e.g., attendance, revenue, expenditures, maintenance, marketing)
- Develop standard operating procedures/manuals
- Compile information to defend agency in the event of accidents
- Enforce code of conduct for facility users and program participants, coaches, and staff
- Develop emergency management plan



Operations (Cont.)

- Respond to emergencies (incidents, first aid, CPR, etc.)
- Develop risk management, safety, security plans, policies and procedures
- Implement risk management, safety, security plan (e.g., addresses safety concerns, recognizes risk, identify hazards, pre- and post-opening inspections)
- Develop plan to accommodate participants with disabilities
- Provide customer service, both internal and external
- Manage customer relationships (e.g., service recovery, recognition, retention)
- Manage properties (e.g., parks, facilities, areas)
- Monitor capital improvements (e.g., renovations, building new facilities)
- Provide input regarding capital improvements based on operational needs
- Analyze trends and best practices
- Identify needs for new facilities, services, and capital improvements
- Develop and recommend agency specific policies, regulations, codes, laws, rules, etc.
- Ensure agency compliance with national, state, and local laws and regulations

Programming

- Create recreation programming
- Supervise recreation programming
- Comply with reporting requirements for programs (statistics)
- Develop program purpose, goals, and objectives for a variety of age groups
- Develop schedules for leagues, programs, and facilities
- Evaluate participant satisfaction, program outcomes
- Identify resources available for programming
- Adjust programming as needed based on available resources (location, staffing, supplies, safety)
- Maintain customer relationships (e.g., respond to customer concerns, requests for information)
- Market programs (e.g., advertising, promotional pieces, news releases, brochures, web site content, social networking)
- Perform group and individual participant assessments
- Prepare programs and special events (e.g., content, lesson plans, activities, format)
- Provide direct leadership of recreation activities (facilitate programs)
- Recruit & retain customers/participants
- Develop comprehensive program plan



Communication

- Promote the benefits of specific programs and services to the community
- Provide education regarding the value and benefits of parks and recreation (e.g., for staff, the public, commissions, stakeholders, policy makers, etc.)
- Solicit public support for the mission and goals of the organization (e.g., formation/support of friends groups)
- Collect public input regarding policies (e.g., addressing constituent comments, public hearings, focus groups, surveys)
- Communicate organization's vision and mission to personnel and stakeholders
- Collaborate with external groups, committees, advisory boards, agencies, and councils
- Promote the organization through marketing and branding
- Formalize relationships with outside community organizations (e.g., leagues, associations, clubs, non-profits, school districts, faith-based organizations)
- Advocate on behalf of the organization to public and media
- Follow the organization's internal chain of communication
- Foster internal and external departmental relationships
- Provide input for reports (e.g., annual, strategic plan, budget)
- Disseminate organization reports (e.g., annual report, financial reports, statistical data, project updates)
- Communicate financial policies, philosophies, and budget status to subordinates (e.g., cost recovery analysis philosophy, budget update reports)
- Convey to seasonal/part time employees the importance of advocacy for the parks and recreation
- Develop marketing strategic plan (e.g., press releases, advertising, presentations)
- Provide input/updates for agency strategic/master plan (e.g., area specific work plan)