



## **Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association 2026 Future Leaders Scholarship Program**

The Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association (SPRA) is committed to supporting the next generation of recreation and parks leaders, and is focused on growing diversity, perspective, and contributions in the industry.

The SPRA Future Leaders Scholarship will support a diverse group of talented Saskatchewan youth to thrive academically and professionally. We believe everyone has a right to an education, and we are committed to providing those experiencing barriers to education the opportunity to apply for scholarship funding to advance their education/training in the field of recreation and parks.

### **Purpose:**

- To provide post-secondary funding for youth (ages 17–30) experiencing barriers to educational attainment.
- To support youth in developing the skills and experience needed to advance parks and recreation priorities across Saskatchewan.
- To ensure the recreation industry remains a relevant and attractive employment option.
- Highlight the successes of a diverse group of future parks and recreation leaders.

### **Scholarship Amount:**

Up to \$3,000 per approved application.

### **Deadline:**

Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 5 p.m.

### **Submissions:**

Can be emailed to SPRA Grants Administrator at [scholarship@spra.sk.ca](mailto:scholarship@spra.sk.ca), with a subject line of **2026 SPRA Future Leaders Scholarship Application**.

### **Eligibility:**

Submissions will only be considered if the following criteria are met. The applicant must be:

- A resident of Saskatchewan.
- Between the ages of 17 and 30 as of December 31, 2026.
- A Canadian citizen, permanent resident or a protected person as defined by the [Immigration and Refugee Protection Act](#).
- Have a current Social Insurance Number (SIN).
- Enrolled in full-time or part-time post-secondary studies at a [recognized or registered Canadian educational institution](#) in 2026. Saskatchewan residents pursuing an education outside of the province are eligible.
- Eligible programs of study include, but are not limited to:
  - Recreation
  - Community Development



- Active Living
- Tourism
- Horticulture
- Recreation Facility Management
- Regional and Urban Planning
- Health Studies/Promotion
- Environmental Studies
- Non-Profit Management
- Landscape Architecture

### Ineligible Programs:

Healthcare professions including; nursing, dentistry, pre-medical studies, and similar fields.

SPRA will prioritize the Application of youth who experience barriers to education or employment. These include, but are not limited to, those who self-identify as:

- Black or other racialized minority identity
- Indigenous.
- 2SLGBTQI+.
- Women.
- Person living with a disability (visible or invisible).
- Living in a low-income household.
- Living with family care responsibilities.
- Living with low levels of literacy and/or numeracy.
- Residing in a rural or remote geographical location.
- Language, Accent, Religion or Creed
- A protected person as defined by the [Immigration and Refugee Protection Act](#).

### Submission Requirements:

- Submit a complete application form.
- Submit answers to interview questions.
- Submit proof of enrollment.
- Recent photograph(s) (encouraged, but not required).

**Note - By submitting this Application Form, applicants agree to provide SPRA approval to use content of successful submissions, in whole or in part, on SPRA platforms.**

### Selection of Recipients:

Following the deadline, a committee will review and consider all submitted Applications. Approved applicants will be notified of their success by April 30, 2026. **Note:** Successful applicants will be requested and required to provide their SIN for taxation purposes.

**If you have any questions or concerns, contact:** SPRA Grants Administrator at [scholarship@spra.sk.ca](mailto:scholarship@spra.sk.ca), or 639-638-4050.



## Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association 2026 Future Leaders Scholarship Application Form

### Contact Information

**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Town/City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Permanent Address (if different from above):**

\_\_\_\_\_

### Self-Identification (Optional)

Check any barriers to education that you experience:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous   | <input type="checkbox"/> Living with low levels of literacy and/or numeracy  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black or other racialized minority identity            | <input type="checkbox"/> Residing in a rural or remote geographical location   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2SLGBTQI+  | <input type="checkbox"/> Language or Accent  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Women  | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion or Creed   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Person living with a disability (visible or invisible) | <input type="checkbox"/> A protected person as defined by the <a href="#">Immigration and Refugee Protection Act</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Living in a low-income household                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Living with family care responsibilities               |  |

The self-identification data will only be used to determine eligibility for the scholarship. This information will be strictly limited to SPRA and members of the adjudication committee.

### Educational History

#### Secondary

**High school (or equivalent) attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Town/City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Month and year graduated:** \_\_\_\_\_



### Post-Secondary

Identify any post-secondary programs you have completed, partially completed, or are enrolled to begin in the Spring, Summer or Fall 2026 semesters.

Program	Institution	Years	Anticipated Completion Date

*Providing proof of enrollment in the current Winter 2026 Semester and/or Proof of Enrollment/Syllabus for a future 2026 Semester (Spring, Summer or Fall) is required.*

*\*\* If applying for an entrance into Fall Semester, funds will be held until proof of enrollment is received.*

### Scholarship Interview Questions

In addition to the above application form, scholarship applicants are required to submit answers to the following interview questions:

Please answer each of the following questions:

*Per question: minimum 100 words, max 350 words*

Personal motivation:

- What have been your personal motivations for pursuing an education in this field and how do you see yourself contributing to the parks and recreation industry in Saskatchewan in the years ahead?
- How do you define "recreation," and what impact does it have on individual and community wellbeing?
- What makes Saskatchewan's parks and recreation industry unique or important?
- From your perspective, what role does the parks and recreation industry play in creating healthy, inclusive, and connected communities?

Barriers to career development:

- What barriers have you faced in achieving your educational and career pursuits and what can be done to ease these challenges?
  - Tip: If you've identified any barriers in the self-identification section, you may want to expand on them here.



Impact of scholarship:

- Please let us know why you should be chosen to receive this scholarship. How will it impact your life?

Responses to the scholarship interview questions can be submitted as a written, audio or video file. Acceptable formats include Microsoft Word (or equivalent), PDF, MP3, or MP4.

Alternative submission options may be considered on a case-by-case basis. Email [scholarship@spra.sk.ca](mailto:scholarship@spra.sk.ca) to request accommodations.

Accompanying photographs, in JPEG format, including a recent photo of the applicant and photos that support the application are highly encouraged.

*Approved submissions may be used by SPRA to contribute to content on SPRA's communication platforms, including the SPRA Blog, website, e-newsletter and social media accounts. Quotations and photographs shared are intended to recognize future leaders in Saskatchewan's recreation and parks industries and highlight the value and strength that a diversity of representation brings.*

*Credit will be given to the author. SPRA reserves the right to make minor edits to the work. Approved applications and interview questions may be scheduled for sharing between April 2026 and June 2027.*

### Submission Checklist

Use this checklist to confirm you have everything ready to submit:

- ☐ Application Form
- ☐ Proof of enrollment or syllabus for future semester  
**NOTE:** If proof of enrollment for a future semester is not available at the time of submission, a course syllabus or similar can be submitted. Funds for approved scholarships will only be released when proof of enrollment is provided.
- ☐ Scholarship Interview Questions
- ☐ Recent photograph(s) (encouraged, but not required)

Submit your application, interview questions, and accompanying documents by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, to SPRA Grants Administrator at [scholarship@spra.sk.ca](mailto:scholarship@spra.sk.ca) with a subject line of **2026 SPRA Future Leaders Scholarship Application**.

*The amount of funding available for the SPRA Future Leaders Scholarship, in any given year, depends upon the availability of Lottery Funds in the Recreation Section for that specific year.*