

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD

This award recognizes the outstanding achievements and accomplishments of young professionals. The candidate must be 35 years of age or younger as of **December 31, 2026**, and be a member of APRA and NRPA. They must have a minimum of 5 years experience as a leader, instructor, supervisor, administrator, consultant, or a combination of these in the field of parks and recreation. The candidate should be an “up and coming leader” who possesses all of those qualities and skills that will eventually put them into top leadership roles.

Maximum Point Value	Criteria
25	Distinctive leadership in promotion, organization, and development of a “pioneer-type” activity in parks and recreation.
20	Contributions to the profession through APRA and NRPA, its branches and affiliates.
20	Outstanding service to the profession through the allied fields of arts, crafts, sports, health and safety education, design, park maintenance, horticulture, education, consultation, services, etc.
20	High recommendations and respect from the staff within the agency for which the individual now works.
5	Holds a degree from an accredited University or a holder of a professional certification related to the field of Parks and Recreation.
10	Up to two pages of supplemental materials (8 1/2 x 11) may be submitted; supplemental pages are defined as news articles, photos, drawings, etc. which enhance understanding of the project. All supplemental information must be submitted in PDF Format.
100 Total Points Possible	