

Become a Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP)

Park and recreation professionals perform essential work and are community heroes. Take your career in this vital field to the next level by becoming a Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP). Whether you want to make a bigger impact on your community, keep your expertise fresh or improve your professional status, becoming a CPRP will open the door to bigger and better opportunities.



Why Become CPRP?

- Join an elite group of more than 6,500 CPRPs who have committed to advancing our field.
- Increase the confidence outside groups and the community have in you and your organization.
- Show your employer that you're a valuable member of the team and that you're willing to learn new things.
- Gain an edge over other candidates when that promotion opportunity pops up or your dream job calls.

Eligibility

The CPRP certification is designed for the beginning to mid-level professional. CPRP candidates must meet education and experience requirements to qualify for the exam.

Individual Application and Exam Fees

- \$250 for students (Please contact certification@nrpa.org for eligibility and requirements)
- \$270 for NRPA members
- \$314 for non-NRPA members

CPRP Prep Materials and Resources

- CPRP pre course and practice exam (\$190 value)
- CPRP comprehensive certification exam and preparation kit (\$455 value)
- CPRP study guide, 6th edition (\$55 value)

Renewal Requirements

Earn 2.0 CEUs within the two-year certification cycle and submit a completed recertification application. Current cost is \$70

How to Earn CEUs Towards CPRP Certification Renewal

- Attend the NRPA Annual Conference, state conferences, local events and trainings that offer CEUs
- Complete online learning courses and webinars that offer CEUs
- NRPA Online Learning
- Complete college or university credits
- Academic credits from accredited colleges and universities can be transferred to CEU equivalents by taking the total number of classroom instructional hours and dividing it by 10

- Earn Professional Service Experience (PSE) Points through contributions to the parks and recreation field via NRPA or a state affiliate (i.e., serving as a committee chair, speaking at a conference, serving as an accreditation visitor, etc.)
- Complete a CEU Petition for equivalent credits for courses, institutes and workshops that do not directly offer CEUs

What IPRA can offer you?

The board of directors has approved investing in members who wish to become NRPA Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP) or Certified Park and Recreation Executive (CPRE). Grants are up to \$455.00 per person. Total grant funding is \$2,000 annually. Candidates or their department will make the initial investment with IPRA reimbursing once the exam is taken.

IPRA offers several one-day learning opportunities with up to 0.2 CEU per event for our members at no charge annually.

IPRA offers a Fall Workshop with up to 0.9 CEU hours annually. The registration fee to attend the 2023 Fall Workshop was \$175.

IPRA offers a Spring Conference with up to 1.1 CEU hours annually. The registration fee to attend the 2024 Spring conference was \$275.

What does all this mean... An IPRA member should be able to receive their CPRP at little to no cost, once reimbursed through the grant. This person should also be able to get their 2.0 CEU credits at little to no out-of-pocket expense every other year.

How can The Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation (IFPR) further assist you?

The IFPR is committed to supporting IPRA and offers fellowship opportunities for both the Iowa Spring Conference and the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) Annual Conference. <https://iapra.org/foundation/>

Attending the NRPA Annual Conference is a great experience to collaborate and network with professionals outside of your home state. NRPA also offers opportunities to volunteer as a room host for a discounted registration rate.

If you have any additional questions, contact Kelly Johnson Rose – kelly@iapra.org

