



## Student Development Scholarship

**Purpose:** The WIRSA Student Development Scholarship was initiated to provide undergraduate and graduate students attending Wisconsin institutions the financial assistance toward a student development opportunity to include, but not limited to, the WIRSA state workshop, NIRSA national conference, Student Lead-On, and state, regional, and national officials clinics/tournaments. This scholarship allows the Wisconsin State Association an opportunity to recognize those students who excel in their vocational pursuits by participating in experiences for professional growth.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements.

1. Must meet one of the following criteria:

- Enrolled as undergraduate, graduate students, or completing a for-credit internship at a Wisconsin institution during the academic term (fall semester, spring semester, or summer session) for which funds are received. Consideration may be given to candidates who apply the term immediately following graduation.
- Employed by the collegiate recreation department/division at a current institution.
- Enrolled in a degree program studying recreation or a related field.
- Serve as committee member for campus recreation-related committee or club team.

2. Individuals who are working in a full-time and/or professional position are not eligible, regardless of student status. Please refer to WIRSA Professional Scholarship.

**Application Requirements:** Applicants must complete the following steps NO LATER than 30 days prior to event. Applications will be reviewed as they are received.

1. Meet eligibility requirements stated above.
2. Submit [scholarship application form](#).
3. Have supervisor/instructor submit WIRSA Student Development Scholarship [recommendation form](#).
4. Submit current resume and items a-e listed below as attachments to: [sandy.wilson@wisc.edu](mailto:sandy.wilson@wisc.edu)
  - a. Itemized budget to include registration fee, travel mode and cost, lodging and meal fees.
  - b. Itemized list of additional confirmed or pending funding sources, such as scholarships and/or institutional funding.
  - c. Resume including experience in leadership, collegiate recreation experience, additional work experience.
  - d. In 250 words or less, briefly explain how you became involved in the field of collegiate recreation, what your current level of involvement is, and the benefits you derive from your involvement.
  - e. In 250 words or less, briefly explain what benefits you will gain from the student development opportunity applied for, what unique qualities you will bring to the experience that will benefit others in attendance, and how you will share your new knowledge with your campus upon return from your experience.

**Selection Criteria:** Applicants will be equally rated on quality of application materials, leadership experiences, involvement in collegiate recreation, contributions to the recreation field at the community, state, regional, and/or national level, and association with WIRSA, NIRSA, and other related organizations. Priority will be given to applicants who are currently enrolled or completing an internship and to those who have not received any previous funding from the WIRSA Student Development Fund.

**Selection Committee:** The selection committee will consist of the WIRSA Scholarship Committee as elected by members of the state association. The State Director will act as an ex officio member, voting to break ties in the selection process.

**Awards:** The number and amount of awards offered annually may vary, dependent upon the financial state of the scholarship fund. Decisions will be left to the discretion of the Scholarship Committee. The recipient's home institution and/or recipient is responsible for all other costs not covered by the scholarship.

**Application Periods:** Completed application materials must be RECEIVED NO LATER than 30 days prior to event. If funding allows, scholarships will be awarded throughout the calendar year. Students may apply for more than one opportunity per year; however, priority will be given to applicants who have not received any previous funding from the WIRSA Student Development Fund.

**Recipient Obligations:**

1. Recipient must attend event or forfeit scholarship.
2. After providing the WIRSA Treasurer with proof of payment, the recipient will be reimbursed in the dollar amount of the award.
3. If appropriate, recipients are encouraged to serve in a volunteer capacity while attending the event (work registration table, introduce speakers, monitor sessions, etc.)
4. Maintain a professional representation of self, program/department, and institution.

**Notification:** All candidates who submitted complete applications will receive electronic notification of scholarship status upon completion of selection process.

**Questions:** All inquiries may be directed to Sandy Wilson, WIRSA Scholarship Committee Member at 608-262-9568 or [sandy.wilson@wisc.edu](mailto:sandy.wilson@wisc.edu)

*Last revised 1/5/23*