**MARS Rolling Scholarship Program**

The Massachusetts Association of Recreational Sports (MARS) Rolling Scholarship Program has been developed to provide professionals and students with financial assistance for attending an event in relation to their profession, i.e.: NIRSA conferences, leadership schools, clinics, intramural championships, etc.

By design, this scholarship provides the state association with opportunities to assist those members who want to excel in their recreational and co-curricular pursuits, but need help getting to the next level.

**Scholarship Eligibility**

To be considered for scholarship awards during the academic year, applicants must meet the following criteria:

**Professionals:**

1. Be a member of NIRSA
2. Be currently enrolled as a professional in Massachusetts, majoring in recreation or a related field, and/or be employed by the campus recreation department at their institution.
3. Submit a letter of support from a professional staff member (as to reasoning why funds are needed).
4. Submit a budget breakdown of cost associated with the event you are wishing attend.
5. Submit a current résumé along with the completed application.
6. Please indicate on application: Professional, Graduate, or Undergraduate Scholarship category.

**Students:**

1. Be currently enrolled as a student in Massachusetts, majoring in recreation or a related field, and/or be employed by the campus recreation department at their institution.
2. Have a minimum current cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a scale of 4.0. Grade conversion should be calculated prior to applying for those on a 5.0 scale.
3. Submit a budget breakdown of cost associated with the event you are wishing attend.
4. Submit a letter of support from a professional staff member (as to reasoning why funds are needed).

**Selection Criteria**

1. Candidates must meet all eligibility requirements to be considered for selection.
2. Candidates and their submitted materials (resume, essay responses, and letter of recommendation) will be rate on the following:
   1. Academic performance (students)
   2. Leadership and involvement in the field of recreational sports
   3. Involvement with local, campus and academic organizations and activities
   4. Their thoughtful assessment of perceived value obtained by attending an event in relation to their profession or future.

**Selection Committee**

The Scholarship Committee will consist of at least three professional members of MARS, appointed by the MARS Leadership Team. The State Director will act as an ex-officio member, voting only to break any ties that occur during the selection process.

**Execution of Awards**

Scholarship will be awarded on a rolling basis. The scholarship amount per applicant will be determined based on the health of the MARS budget, the number of applications received, and the quality of application

**Obligations of Recipients**

1. Recipients must attend the event they applied funding for or forfeit their award.
2. After providing the MARS scholarship selection committee with proof of registration of event, the recipient will be reimbursed in the dollar amount of the award.

Please **email** completed application, resume, and letter of support to **ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS**:

**Email Subject and Attention**: (Student or Professional Name) - MARS Rolling Scholarship Application

**Tyler DeLeon, MIT (Committee Chair)**

[deleont@mit.edu](mailto:deleont@mit.edu)

**Nicholas D’Amato, UMass Amherst**

[ndamato@umass.edu](mailto:ndamato@umass.edu)

**Joe Rock, UMass Lowell**

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**Matt Gordon, Harvard University**

[Matthew.gordon@hfit.com](mailto:Matthew.gordon@hfit.com)

**MARS Rolling Scholarship Application**

Name:       E-mail:

Address:       City:       ZIP:

Home/Cell Telephone:       Work Telephone:

College/University:

**Professional:**

Positing Title:

Event Applying for:

Total Cost of Event:

College/University support:

Amount Desired:

**Student:**

Class: Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior  Graduate

Undergraduate Major:       Minor:

Graduate Degree Program:

Accumulative GPA (converted to a 4-point scale):

GPA verified by the Director of Campus Recreation:

Director’s Signature

Event Applying for:

Total Cost of Event:

College/University support:

Amount Desired:

**Professional and Student:**

**Using 150 words or less per answer, please type your responses to the following essay questions on a separate sheet of paper:**

1. **What is your current level of involvement with campus recreation?**
2. **How do you think you will benefit by attending this specific event?**
3. **What are your short and long-term goals within campus recreation?**

I have enclosed my current résumé.

I have enclosed one letter of recommendation.

The letter of recommendation will be sent by:

I have enclosed typed responses to the essay questions.

I have enclosed a budget breakdown of the event I want to attend.