Leisure Planning & Management Careers

- Director of Recreation & Parks for a city or county
- Swimming Pool Manager
- Youth Sports Director at a YMCA, YWCA, Boys & Girls Clubs or on a military base
- Camp Director for church or youth agency camps
- Executive Director for Youth Groups such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs
- Youth Development Specialist
- Adult Programs or Youth Sports Coordinator for a Community Education Department
- Convention Manager or Special Events Coordinator
- Intramural Sports Manager or Student Union Director
- Operations Manager for a Theme Park
- Cruise Activity Director
- Special Events Coordinator for a city parks and recreation department
- Program Director for youth, outdoor sports and single sailor/soldier programs on military bases worldwide

Therapeutic Recreation Careers

- Therapeutic Recreation Specialist in a:
  ▲ hospital
  ▲ rehabilitation center
  ▲ treatment center
  ▲ correctional facility
  ▲ residential care facility
  ▲ behavioral health center
  ▲ outdoor recreation center
  ▲ adaptive sports center
- Activity Director in skilled nursing facility
- Adaptive Recreation Specialist for a camp
- Program Director for an adult day program
- Inclusion Specialist for a city parks and recreation department

Resource Management Careers

- Naturalist or Interpretive Planner
- Park or Visitor Services Guide
- Park Ranger, Wildlife or Conservation Officer
- Natural Resource Recreation Manager
- Wilderness, Aquatic/River or Forestry Recreation Technician
- Recreation Research Technician
- Natural Resource Recreation Policy Analyst
- Resource Management or Outdoor Recreation Planner
- Community Park Planner and Parks Groundskeeper
- Nonprofit Conservation Activist
- Environmental or Outdoor Educator
- Nature-based Recreation Resort/Outfitter
- Adventure/Hunting/Fishing Guide

The RPLS profession is involved in a wide variety of settings, serving a diversified population. The following is only a partial list of the many jobs available to those who choose a career in RPLS.

For More Information, Please Contact:

Department of Recreation, Parks & Leisure Services
Minnesota State University, Mankato
213 Highland Center N
Mankato, MN 56001
507-389-2127
800-627-3529 or 711 (MRS/TTY)
rec-park-leisure-services@mnsu.edu
http://ahn.mnsu.edu/rpls/
The Minor in RPLS
To complete a minor in RPLS, you need to take the following 12 credits in the RPLS Core: RPLS 272, RPLS 376, RPLS 377 and RPLS 473 along with 9 credits (3 RPLS courses) from one of the Career Tracks. Please check with one of the Career Track Advisors for assistance.

The Field Experience
The Field Experience requires you to complete a total of 100 hours of professional experience in a recreation and leisure service agency during your senior year. This must be completed prior to application to completing your practicum and is established with the assistance of your career track advisor.

The Practicum
This senior capstone experience (practicum) requires you to complete a 14 consecutive week (560 hours) fieldwork experience that allows you to make the adjustment from the classroom to the professional world. This “practicum” is usually scheduled after you have completed all of your course work including RPLS 384 Field Experience with a 2.5 GPA in the major and received at least a “C” grade in each RPLS course. The practicum is set up with the assistance of your faculty advisor.

This brochure contains general information for students. Students should see their specific academic bulletin and work with their advisor for the most accurate information.

Prerequisites to the Major
IT 100 (4) Introduction to Computing and Applications
RPLS 272 (3) Introduction to Recreation, Parks & Leisure Services

RPLS Professional Core
RPLS 277 (3) Recreation Leadership
RPLS 278 (3) Leisure and Lifestyle
RPLS 302 (2) Pre-Practicum Seminar
RPLS 376 (3) Program Planning in RPLS
RPLS 377 (3) Public Relations
RPLS 379 (3) Management of Parks & Recreation Facilities
RPLS 384 (1) Field Experience
RPLS 471W (3) Research Design in RPLS
RPLS 473 (3) Administration of Leisure-Time Programs
RPLS 483 (3) Legal Processes in RPLS
RPLS 495 (9) Practicum

Leisure Planning & Management Career Track
RPLS 274 (3) Therapeutic Recreation Services
RPLS 325 (3) Programming for Outdoor Settings
RPLS 378 (3) Commercial Recreation and Tourism
RPLS 451 (3) Advanced Program Delivery Methods
RPLS 465 (3) Event Management

RECREATION, PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES
In order to earn a degree in Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services, you are required to complete the 39 credits in the Professional Core and all of the courses listed in one of the three career tracks: Leisure Planning and Management, Resource Management or Therapeutic Recreation. Please be sure to visit with your advisor who will assist you in scheduling your courses.