

# RECREATION AND LEISURE

What can I do with this degree?

## AREAS

## EMPLOYERS

## STRATEGIES

### COMMERCIAL RECREATION/TOURISM

Travel/Transportation

Convention services  
Recreation travel agencies  
Travel/tourism bureaus  
Cruise lines  
Airlines  
Bus lines  
Railroads

Develop strong programming, leadership and communication skills.  
Obtain business skills with business minor or work experience.  
Acquire foreign language ability.

Hospitality

Hotels, motels  
Restaurants  
Resorts  
Taverns  
Motor home parks  
Campgrounds  
Recreation communities  
Theme parks  
Private industry  
Second home communities  
Special events companies

Local Commercial Recreation

Multipurpose sports clubs  
Racquet clubs  
Dance studios  
Health and fitness clubs  
Golf courses  
Movie theaters  
Skating rinks  
Bowling lanes  
Party services  
Amusement parks  
Various entertainment providers  
Vendors  
Concessionaires

Learn membership sales techniques.  
Develop high knowledge and ability for skill area.

**AREAS**

**EMPLOYERS**

**STRATEGIES**

**MEDICAL**

Therapeutic Recreation

Rehabilitation hospitals  
Nursing homes  
Acute care hospitals  
Psychiatric facilities  
Community mental health centers  
Senior centers  
Adult daycare centers  
Residential facilities for people with special needs  
Substance abuse centers  
Correctional facilities  
Recovery centers  
Educational facilities

Demonstrate ability to work as part of an interdisciplinary team.  
Obtain therapeutic recreation emphasis or graduate degree in area.  
May require licensing, certification or registration.  
Need ability to be patient, tactful and persuasive.  
Possess ingenuity and imagination.  
Have good physical coordination.

**GOVERNMENT**

Outdoor Recreation Planning  
Parks  
Natural Resource Management  
Recreation Management  
Center of Special Facility Management  
Program Management  
Business Management

City, county or regional government agencies including parks and public recreation programs  
Correctional facilities  
Conservation  
Rehabilitation centers  
State and federal government agencies including parks, forests, wildlife areas and water resources  
Department of Defense  
military bases in U.S. and foreign countries

Learn federal, state and local job application procedures.

**SOCIAL SERVICE**

Camp Management  
Program Management  
Community Center Management  
Coaching  
Writing

Camps-wilderness, service organizations, religious  
Children's homes  
Correctional facilities  
Senior centers  
Youth programs  
Special Olympics  
Community programs for people with special needs  
Nonprofit organizations  
Community centers

Obtain experience with camps, youth groups, etc.

## AREAS

## EMPLOYERS

## STRATEGIES

### **FITNESS**

Health Club Management  
Fitness Instructing  
Dance Instructing  
Coaching  
Athletic Training

Fitness centers  
Corporate fitness centers  
Weight reduction facilities  
Sports and entertainment centers  
Athletic clubs  
Adult care facilities  
Sports clinics  
Self employment

Obtain experience and expertise in various athletic/  
fitness areas.  
Obtain certification in area if available.

### **ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDERS**

Travel and Tourism  
Resort Management

Facilities Management

Promotion  
Writing/Editing

Airlines, cruse lines, resorts  
Motels/hotels  
  
Movie theaters, amusement parks, water theme  
parks, arenas, stadiums, fairs, festivals  
Concert promotion  
Publishers--magazines, newspapers, books  
Museums

Participate in related campus activities like Campus  
Entertainment Board, Cultural Attractions  
Committee, etc.  
Get experience in campus theater, classes and  
production.  
  
Develop strong writing skills.

### **INDUSTRIAL RECREATION**

Industry  
Employees associations/unions  
Corporate fitness centers

Obtain experience and skills in a variety of areas.  
Get experience in program planning for various  
ages.

### **RECREATION RETAILING**

Department stores  
Specialty shops  
Sporting goods stores

Gain experience in direct sales and customer  
service.  
Develop skills in management and motivation of  
others.  
Get experience in promotion and special events.  
Acquire skills in inventory management including  
purchasing, stock control and merchandise  
display.

## AREAS

### **EDUCATION**

Teaching  
Research  
Coaching  
Physical Education Teaching  
Administration/Recreation Facilities

## EMPLOYERS

Universities/colleges  
Elementary/secondary schools  
Prisons/correctional facilities

## STRATEGIES

Graduate degree required for teaching and administrative positions.  
Learn process for certification/licensing for teaching K-12.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Obtain summer, part-time, internship, co-op experience in camps, playgrounds, counseling, camping, neighborhood sports centers, life guarding, etc.
- Undergraduate degree sufficient for entry-level positions and in elementary/secondary teaching fields.
- Graduate work required for administrative positions and teaching/research positions at universities/colleges.
- Obtain broad liberal arts and cultural background including knowledge/skills in athletics, music, arts and crafts, nature, dance, drama and club structure.
- Obtain certification in first aid and safety, CPR, lifeguarding, depending on your interests.
- Enjoy the outdoors and/or be willing to work outdoors.
- Develop physical agility and stamina for your career.
- Develop good verbal and written communication skills.
- Join related professional associations.
- Attend state/national professional association conferences.
- Develop ability to motivate others.
- Possess ability to enjoy life and positively interact with others.
- Obtain competence and skills in special area(s) of interest.
- Develop ability to work effectively with people of various ages and backgrounds.
- Possess cooperative attitude toward others and agencies and common sense in understanding and dealing with people and situations.
- Demonstrate ability to work as part of a team.
- Obtain knowledge of U.S. and world geography, history and social customs. Consider taking foreign language depending on your career interest.
- Develop leadership skills in coordinating and directing others in various activities; ability to supervise.