



Mo McAlpine Student Employee Development Scholarship

Purpose

The purpose of the Mo McAlpine Student Employee Development Scholarship is to promote and support continuing education and professional development opportunities for UWL Rec Sports student employees while contributing to the betterment of the department.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be currently enrolled at UWL
- Have a positive work history
- Have completed at least one full semester of employment with UWL Rec Sports at the time of application
- Be on staff at the time of the development opportunity
- Certification applicants must utilize their certification to contribute to Rec Sports for two semesters after successful completion of the certification. Students may be required to pay Rec Sports back if they don't meet this obligation.

Mo McAlpine

This scholarship was renamed in 2022 to honor Mo McAlpine's 32 years of service to Rec Sports. Mo was the heart and soul of this department. For 32 years, she created a culture of leading from the heart, with an eagle-eyed focus on student support and development. She made a positive impact on the lives of hundreds, if not thousands, of students over the years, caring for them as if they were her own children. Countless professional staff here and around the country can call her their friend and mentor. Her passion, positive energy and wisdom was unmatched. The culture she helped create will undoubtedly leave a positive impact on the department for years to come.

Development Opportunities

Funding may be used to attend a local, state, regional or national seminar, workshop, conference or certification. Though the opportunity does not have to be campus recreation related, the applicant must provide rationale that the experience will benefit the department.

Opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- WIRSA Conference
- NIRSA Regional or National Conference
- AORE National Conference
- Wilderness First Responder Certification
- Group Fitness Instructor Certification
- Group Fitness CEU Courses
- Personal Trainer Certifications

Student employees should NOT apply to attend the NIRSA Student Lead On, as that is funded and applied for separately.

Funding

Funding is provided through the UWL Rec Sports Foundation Development Fund. Funding available each semester is based on the total dollars available in the fund and revenue generated the previous year.

Funding is non-transferable to another staff member or development opportunity.

Scholarship funding will be provided as a reimbursement upon payment/registration of the development opportunity.

Application Process

Eligible applicants must [apply](#) for funding by the two application deadlines, with specific dates set each year:

- September
 - Fall 2024 Deadline: Monday, 9/23
- February
 - Spring 2025 Deadline: Monday, 2/24

Applicants may apply before the opportunity or for a previously completed opportunity. Previously completed opportunities must have been completed in the 6 months prior to the deadline and receipts must be available.

Students must [submit an application](#) and required supplemental materials for each activity. The application will request the following:

- Current resume
- Itemized budget to include registration fees, costs associated with travel to and from the conference, food, and the cost of lodging
- Supporting document that verifies event description and registration fees

Successful applicants will have considered and applied for other funding scholarships available through [UWL](#), [NIRSA Region III](#), [NIRSA National](#), [WIRSA](#), [AORE](#), etc.

Scholarship applications are reviewed and awarded by departmental pro staff. Applicants will be notified via email once a funding decision has been made; the award must be accepted by deadline stated in email.

Recipient Follow Up & Expectations

Recipients are expected to:

- Act in a professional manner that positively reflects UWL and the Rec Sports Department. If poor behavior is observed and/or reported, applicant will be asked to leave the development opportunity and return to campus at own expense. No reimbursement will be awarded.
- Verbally report on the experience at a position staff meeting at the earliest date possible following the event. Report should include summary of lessons learned, skills gained, networks created, and new potential ideas.