

RECREATION, PARK, AND TOURISM MANAGEMENT, B.S. (HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT)

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park, World Campus

Career Paths

Careers in Recreation, Park and Tourism Management (RPTM) include management positions in commercial resorts, event management businesses, golf courses and golf industry businesses, national and local park systems, environmental centers, outdoor adventure businesses and sports, fitness and recreation facilities in communities, universities, workplaces, military settings, and other locations. Graduate programs in RPTM educate students about research, theory and practice related to leisure and recreation of individuals and groups, including societal and cross-cultural dimensions. RPTM students can also use their degree to prepare for additional graduate training in public health, public administration, public policy, health administration, business or law.

Careers

Careers for RPTM graduates typically fit with the options within the degree program, including positions in:

- Commercial Recreation, Event and Tourism Management positions such as resort and cruise recreation director, travel and tourism management, corporate recreation and events planning, and sport and fitness venue management, including our Professional Golf Management option.
- Community and Nonprofit Recreation Management positions, including roles in community recreation centers, military recreation leadership, youth camp or senior center management and related positions.
- Outdoor Adventure and Natural Resource Management positions, such as park ranger, environmental or outdoor educator, wilderness program supervisor and outdoor recreation planner, among others.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE RECREATION, PARK, AND TOURISM MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (<https://hhd.psu.edu/rptm/undergraduate/career-opportunities>)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

Whether you are looking for a master's degree or your doctorate in RPTM, our multi-disciplinary graduate program is designed to educate students about research, theory and practice related to recreation, parks, tourism and leisure. Both the master of science (M.S.) and the doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) programs help you develop an understanding of the social, environmental, psychological and economic aspects of human behavior in relation to the experience and delivery of recreation, park, tourism and leisure activities.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (<https://hhd.psu.edu/rptm/graduate/rptm-graduate-career-opportunities>)

Professional Resources

- Professional Golfers' Association of America (<https://www.pga.org>)
- Kurt Hahn Consortium for Values and Experiential Learning (<https://hhd.psu.edu/rptm/research/research-labs-and-initiatives/kurt-hahn-consortium-values-and-experiential-learning-1>)
- RPTM Research Labs and Initiatives in Outdoor Recreation, Protected Areas and Environmental Education (<https://hhd.psu.edu/rptm/research/research-labs-and-initiatives/outdoor-recreation-protected-area-and-environmental-education-research-group>)
- Shaver's Creek Environmental Center (<https://www.shaverscreek.org>)
- National Recreation and Park Association (<https://www.nrpa.org>)
- Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society (<https://prps.org>)
- Equity in Parks and Recreation (<https://www.nrpa.org/our-work/Three-Pillars/equity/>)
- PGA of America Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (<https://www.pga.com/pga-of-america/pga-of-america-diversity-equity-and-inclusion>)