

The Tommy Wilson Memorial Grant Application Packet

The Tommy Wilson Memorial Grant supports recreational programs for individuals with disabilities. This application packet explains what you will need to apply for a Tommy Wilson Memorial Grant.

Deadline: All materials must be submitted electronically to the AAPAR office by **December 1** of each year.

Grant funds: Grants are awarded for up to \$1500 total per year. Applicants may apply for \$500 to \$1500. AAPAR reserves the right to not award any funds, at its discretion.

Application Procedure: Please email completed application in WORD format to: AAPAR@aahperd.org.

Thank you for your interest in the Tommy Wilson Memorial Grant. If you would like additional information, please contact AAPAR.

Background

Dr. George T. Wilson and his wife, Irene, established the Tommy Wilson Memorial Award in honor of their youngest son, Tommy, who was born with cerebral palsy and passed away in 1974 at the age of 16. Because of Tommy, Dr. Wilson became involved in recreation for developmentally disabled individuals.

Dr. Wilson was very active in the field of recreation and, among other leadership responsibilities, served as President of AALR. He was involved in many projects throughout his life such as pioneering development of the Waukesha County Wisconsin park system, Milwaukee Public Schools Oak Ridge Farm, as well as the Marquette Helfaer Center and Summerfest. Dr. Wilson was active in outdoor education and camping and founded the Milwaukee Family Camping Association. Toward the end of his career, he assisted with the formation of the Oconomowoc Area Senior Center at Shorehaven.

Dr. Wilson obtained his master's degree from Marquette University and his Ph.D. from Indiana University. He was a widely known innovator, author and lecturer in outdoor education, community recreation programs for individuals with disabilities, community use of schools, and recreation administration. He was also a pioneer in the field of leisure counseling.

Dr. Wilson passed away in 2002 at the age of 87 and is remembered as a great leader and inspiration in the field of leisure and recreation. His legacy carries on through the Tommy Wilson Memorial Grant.

The Tommy Wilson Memorial Grant Application Instructions

Overview

- 1) Please read this application packet carefully.
- 2) Applicants must fulfill all criteria requirements.
- 3) All packet material must be submitted at the same time.
- 4) Return via email to AAPAR@aahperd.org.
- 5) Subject line: Tommy Wilson Grants
- 6) **Deadline:** December 1st of each year

Criteria: The following criteria must be met by all applicants:

1. The program must provide a specific direct service to individuals with disabilities.
2. The program must focus on recreational pursuits for individuals with disabilities.
3. The applicant must have a record of successful programming for individuals with disabilities.
4. The applicant must be a non-profit organization.
5. Funds must go directly to supporting individuals with disabilities in recreational activities (i.e. equipment, housing, registration fees, facilities; *not* administrative costs)
6. Funded projects are required to submit a summary report of funds and activities of the project within 3 months following project completion or 15 months after the funds are received, whichever is sooner. In addition, recipients are required to write a 400-word article for *PAR for Life* and may be invited to offer a presentation at the AAHPERD Convention.
7. Applicants may only be funded under this grant once per five-year period.
8. Priority will be given to programs that assist economically disadvantaged or low-income individuals.
9. Priority will be given to programs that have at least one AAPAR member on staff.

Application Elements

Please submit all of the following via email as an attached WORD document at one time:

1. Application Letter:
 - a. Cover Letter Contact Information (see below)
 - b. Funds requested: Please specify how much money you are requesting for your program. The amount may range from \$500 to \$1500.
 - c. Please describe how you would use the funds, being sure to address all of the first 6 criteria stated above. Include no more than six pages total.
 - d. Copy of your organizations 501(c)(3)

2. Two letters of recommendation: Submit two letters supporting the program's contribution to individuals with disabilities (from professionals, participants, or a combination).

We do not accept portfolios. Please do not send any videotapes or other supporting materials.

The Review and Presentation Process

AAPAR's Adapted Physical Activity Council (APAC) awards committee will be responsible for reviewing all applications. Awards Committee members and AAPAR Board members are not eligible to apply for these grants.

Awards will be presented at each annual AAHPERD Convention. Winners are invited to attend but attendance at the AAHPERD Convention is not mandatory. Funds are not available to reimburse attendees for expenses, unfortunately, but we do hope winners will be able to join us.

Cover Letter Contact Information

Please include the following information, in this order, on the cover page of your application:

- 1) Person Applying for Grant
- 2) Program Name
- 3) Organization Name, if different
- 4) Address
- 5) Telephone
- 6) E-mail address
- 7) Designated Recipient: If different from Person Applying for Grant, above, include all the contact information of the person who will, if possible, attend the AAHPERD Convention to accept the grant.