



# Bachelor of Science in Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management



**PennState**  
World Campus

A world of possibilities.  
Online.

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“The mission of the Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management (RPTM) is to transform health and human well-being by engaging people in recreation, parks, tourism, and other leisure activities. The RPTM online degree program provides students with a flexible and high-quality experience in the pursuit of their B.S. from Penn State. The faculty who teach their courses are the same University Park faculty known across the globe for their talents in teaching and research. We are extremely proud of the legacy of this department and the impact we make in research and teaching, and the online program is merely an extension of this legacy, making this degree more accessible to people who will impact and improve the world.”

—Peter Newman  
Professor and Department Head  
Department of Recreation, Park, and  
Tourism Management  
College of Health and Human Development

# Online Bachelor of Science in Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management

With the hectic pace of modern culture, many people find themselves feeling disconnected. Participating in recreational activities is one of the best ways to relieve stress and live a more balanced lifestyle. Accordingly, the demand for professionals who can manage the environmental, cultural, and economic impact of commercial recreation, park, tourism, and leisure experiences will continue to grow. Penn State's 120-credit Bachelor of Science in Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management (RPTM)—Commercial Recreation and Tourism Management option can help you to meet this demand.

## Career-Shaping Knowledge and Skills

Through challenging course work and experiential learning, you can obtain

strategies for influencing policy-making, minimizing environmental impact, overseeing marketing efforts, and much more in preparation for a number of rewarding careers in this dynamic industry.

## Convenient Online Learning

The bachelor's degree program, offered by the College of Health and Human Development and delivered online through Penn State World Campus, gives you the opportunity to study whenever and wherever it suits you as you prepare for more challenging and rewarding positions.

To learn more about the Bachelor of Science in Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management, visit: [worldcampus.psu.edu/rptm](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/rptm)



# Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management Curriculum

The RPTM course work is designed to help you gain the theoretical, managerial, and technical skills you need to become a leader in the field. A successful graduate of the program will be able to:

- › assess social, environmental, political, and economic benefits/detriments of recreation and tourism service delivery
- › develop a comprehensive recreation and tourism business plan, taking into consideration the strategic management process and how it applies to the for-profit recreation industry

- › make strategic management decisions for nonprofit and for-profit recreation/tourism organizations grounded in the analysis of market, financial, legal, and political factors
- › communicate ideas through written presentations and public speaking in a manner that conveys professional competence and technical expertise

To view the list of courses you will take, visit:

[worldcampus.psu.edu/rptm-courses](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/rptm-courses)

## Practical Applications

All of your course work for the degree will be online, but successfully preparing for a career in such a customer-focused industry requires working in the field with real people. For this reason, as a student in the RPTM degree program, you will be required to participate in an experiential internship.

Designed to help you pull together and leverage all of the pieces of your educational journey, your internship can provide you with an opportunity to further develop your professional goals. By participating in this experience, you can find yourself better prepared to

meet the challenges of the industry and you can make some great professional connections along the way.

For more information on the internship experience, visit:

[worldcampus.psu.edu/rptm-internship](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/rptm-internship)





# Career Opportunities for Graduates

A degree in recreation, park, and tourism management can help you leverage your passion for working with people through activity and adventure into a rewarding career. If you are creative, outgoing, entrepreneurial, and looking for a way to make a living doing what you love, the RPTM program can prepare you to help people make the most of their leisure time in a wide range of fields:

## Recreation Management

If helping people stay active and improve their quality of life is your goal, you could consider being a recreation manager where you would design and lead activities in places like youth summer camps, fitness centers, senior centers, or nature parks.

## Tourism and Event Management

You could choose to focus on vacation-related and event management occupations, which could include a variety of travel, entertainment, and event companies. You might find yourself working for a convention and visitors bureau or as an activities director, travel agent/tour guide, or event planner.

## Entertainment, Sports, and Arena Management

The RPTM degree can also provide you with the skills needed to manage entertainment and sports venues. Careers in this area could include live entertainment planning, professional sports management, campus recreation director, or arena operations manager.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Why Penn State?

### Collaboration

The RPTM program is a collaboration between Penn State World Campus and Penn State's Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management in the College of Health and Human Development. The partnership connects you with outstanding faculty who can teach you how to transform health and well-being by engaging people in recreation.

### Flexibility and convenience

Penn State knows that adults need flexible and convenient learning options in order to continue meeting their professional and personal commitments. You can take courses when and where you please, earning your degree at your own pace.

### Reputation

Putting a Penn State degree on your résumé is a great way to broaden your career options and prove to employers that you are a well-educated professional.

## What types of student support are available?

As a Penn State World Campus student, you will be supported by a team of knowledgeable and caring staff who understand the unique challenges of balancing work and personal

responsibilities while learning online. You will have access to career services, technical support, the Penn State University Libraries system, tutoring for some courses, clubs and organizations, and a dedicated student affairs team.

## Can I obtain financial aid?

Penn State realizes that one of the greatest challenges of returning to school is the cost. Our advisers have been trained to help you make the most of the financial aid options and opportunities available to you. Visit [worldcampus.psu.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid) for details.

## Is this the real Penn State?

Yes. Since Penn State World Campus was launched in 1998, it has grown into one of the most highly regarded online campuses—extending Penn State's reputation as a leader in higher education to those who aren't able to attend classes on campus or who can't commit to traditional, full-time enrollment. When you earn a degree through Penn State World Campus, you're earning an official Penn State degree. There won't be any designation on your diploma that your courses were completed at a distance.

# Begin Your Application Today

## How to Begin

1. Visit: [worldcampus.psu.edu/rptm](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/rptm)
2. Click the "Apply Now" button to access your application.

## Application Materials

- › complete online application form and fee
- › official high school transcripts or GED transcript
- › official military transcripts (if applicable)
- › official college or university transcripts (if you attended another institution)
- › TOEFL or IELTS score (if applicable)



For a more detailed description of the application requirements and procedures, please visit: [worldcampus.psu.edu/admissions](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/admissions)



# Contact Us

## Admissions Questions

[pennstateonline@psu.edu](mailto:pennstateonline@psu.edu)

814-863-5386

[worldcampus.psu.edu/admissions](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/admissions)



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