

CPRS arranges educational learning into special interest categories called "Training Tracks." These tracks assist in selecting educational exchanges that will best satisfy current member training needs.

Education Program Training Tracks

Addressing Our Changing California & The Way We Do Business

What are the future trends in our profession and how do we prepare for what's ahead? What trends affect our service delivery? What if we become obsolete? Sessions in this track might share strategies on how to prioritize what the community wants. For instance: when do we ask the community what they think or want? Teach us about the daily business of providing recreation, park & community services, recreation programming and park maintenance innovations. Teach us how to bring together credible constituencies with interest in the same issues, steps to creating an alliance and why, how to create new advocacy bases, customer experience strategies, community activism, unique opportunities and public policy/legislative developments that affect parks and recreation.

Community Engagement Tools

Do you have a successful method for engaging with groups in a particular area or the most appropriate times or venues? Community stakeholders can participate in a variety of ways, to different levels of influence, in identifying needs, generating solutions, planning new initiatives and service delivery. Sessions in this track will provide guidance on the issues to consider when planning and designing community engagement experiences, tips on overcoming barriers to engagement, evaluation of the engagement process (both an ongoing basis and post completion), transparency of process and reporting results.

Emerging Professionals

Sessions in this track will focus on growing the profession, how to offer supplementary training experiences for those professionals, benefits of consistent training and developing life-long learners. Sessions might include strategies for obtaining additional training dollars even when you know the employees will leave the agency, being more flexible and opportunistic, a "utility player" within the organization or profession. These educational sessions will provide an introduction to a wide range of topics and skills such as values of the profession, expected and desired competencies, advancing the profession, retention, daily business of providing recreation, park & community services, program planning, budgeting 101 and 102, and marketing.

Entrepreneurial Strategies/Challenging Current Business Practices

Entrepreneurship isn't about acquiring business skills such as spreadsheets and marketing plans. Instead, entrepreneurship is the way someone thinks, it might be innovative thinkers, it's the importance of looking for new, outside perspectives and partnerships and remaining open to opportunities that can challenge the way we think and work; Sessions might teach us to consider trying a new business model, being creative with partnerships, being open to risk and to failing in our government world, thinking beyond the best available option to identify the best possible solution, or perhaps considering a non-typical way of doing business as a government entity.

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The CPRS continuing **education** program supports the organizations' role of developing leaders and **training** the park & recreation workforce to ensure we are an essential service in every community.

Contact CPRS Education Department at (916) 665-2777 for additional assistance.

Evidence-Based Approaches

Identify research that informs practice; effectual problem solving; grounding decisions in the best available evidence; collaboration between researchers and users of their skills and findings; implementation of evidence-based practices; compiling, analyzing, and using objective evidence to inform the design of a program or facility or guide the modification of either.

Health and Wellness

Diverse methods to incorporate health and wellness into your residents'/clients' lifestyles. Highlight and teach us about your role in fitness, active lifestyles, active retirement, arthritis and the self-management of diseases such as Alzheimer's, diabetes or cardiovascular disease. Sessions in this track might teach others how to make health and wellness a part of the organization's overall mission, or offer services like fall prevention and safety advocacy.

Leadership Strategies

Examining the difference between leadership versus management styles and recognizing your and other employees' strengths and weakness; utilizing this information to work more efficiently and effectively; exploring methods to create an environment for success; understanding the importance of group dynamics and teamwork; strategic investment in, and utilization of, the human capital within the organization; setting direction and guiding others to follow that direction. These sessions can also be about having those sensitive, difficult, uncomfortable conversations that matter related to your co-workers, community residents, customers and partners.

Our Role in Human Development

The human development approach is about expanding the richness of human life, rather than simply the richness of the economy in which human beings live; focusing our approach on people and their opportunities and choices; building resiliency; strengthening family & community, best/current practices, marketing; management practices; successful programming; the youth development philosophy including youth empowerment and youth leadership training.

Planning & Maintaining Your Grounds

Before approaching your administrators and agency officials with facility and park maintenance requests, check out the newest approaches to design, development, and maintenance of parks, playgrounds, and facilities, justification for facility and park maintenance requests, strategies for approaching your administrators and agency officials.

Self Development/Core Competencies for the Professional & the Ever-changing Workplace

Sessions seek to equip attendees with adequate skills and competencies to meet the ever-changing work environment and allows self-development to be accomplished through active learning, rather than passive viewing; demonstrating ability to manage their own learning; tools and resources to reinforce successful professional development programs required for ongoing success.

We've got a priority list: please refer to the [CPRS California Action Plan](#) core competencies (page 6). Competencies are divided up between professionals and organizational core

competencies: Professional competencies include but are not limited to, budget management, resourcefulness, interpersonal skills, innovation, strategic thinking, risk management, community and technical knowledge, mentoring and coaching; leadership in action. Organizational competencies include staff development, partnership, community leadership, resource development and management, research, planning and design, cultural diversity and inclusion, outcome-driven management, human development, ecosystem management, organizational cohesiveness, political acumen, client services, technology and communications such as marketing and branding.