

# 2026 NORTH DAKOTA RECREATION & PARK ASSOCIATION DR. SANDRA MODISETT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

## **Dr. Sandra Modisett: A Leader in the '90s**

The woman for which the Sandra Modisett Memorial Scholarship is named was an influential professional in the field of parks and recreation in North Dakota.

Dr. "Sandy" Modisett was a professor of recreation at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, president of the North Dakota Recreation & Park Association (NDRPA) and vice chairperson for the Grand Forks Park District. She was elected president of the park board May 1, 1990. She was also an active member of the St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Modisett died of natural causes May 7, 1990, in her home.

Born in Minneapolis, Minn., Modisett moved to Dickinson, N.D., with her family when she was in junior high. She graduated from Dickinson Central High School in 1953 and Dickinson State College in 1956. In 1958, she went to Europe to teach in American high schools in France and Germany. She moved to Grand Forks in 1978 where she directed the recreation division of UND's Health, Physical Education and Recreation Department.

Modisett's family and colleagues remember her for her enthusiasm, warmth and adventurous nature. "She was the kind of person who really took hold and became a part of things," said John Modisett, Sandy's brother. "She was very proud of North Dakota and her heritage."

## **The Memorial Scholarship:**

NDRPA will award two monetary scholarships of up to \$1,500 each during the 2026-2027 academic year. Each scholarship will also include free registration and assistance with some travel expenses to attend the 2026 NDRPA State Conference and a one-year membership in NDRPA. Selection of recipients will be based on demonstrated academic achievement and professional commitment. Conference attendance is encouraged but not required..

## **Eligibility Criteria:**

- Be enrolled as a full-time sophomore, junior or senior student at a North Dakota college or university in fall 2026.
- Be enrolled in a major area of study such as:
  - recreation
  - leisure
  - natural resources
  - tourism service
  - sport management
  - coaching, or
  - a related field
- Preference will be given to students who are members of NDRPA at the time of application.

## **Application Deadline:**

Completed applications must be received by April 1, 2026. Successful candidates will be invited to attend the 2026 NDRPA State Conference & Awards Banquet Sept. 15-17 in Dickinson, N.D., where they will be awarded their scholarships.

## **How to Apply:**

For more information, please visit [www.ndrpa.com](http://www.ndrpa.com) or contact any lead recreation, leisure, natural resource, sport management or tourism professor at your educational institution. Application form, current academic transcript, and question responses can be sent either electronically or mailed to the address below.

*Email:* [ndrpaoffice@gmail.com](mailto:ndrpaoffice@gmail.com)

*Questions:* Call Shannon at 701-355-4458

*Mail:* NDRPA  
Attn: Scholarship Committee  
P.O. Box 1091  
Bismarck, ND 58502

Successful candidates will receive advance notification in order to make arrangements to attend the 2026 NDRPA State Conference & Awards Banquet.

## **About NDRPA:**

The North Dakota Recreation & Park Association (NDRPA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization whose mission is advancing parks, recreation and conservation for an enhanced quality of life in North Dakota. NDRPA is a state affiliate of the National Recreation and Park Association.

Any individual or organization with an interest in North Dakota parks, recreation, natural resources and/or tourism is encouraged to join NDRPA. NDRPA has more than 900 members, including park districts, park board members, professionals, educational institutions, students and allied organizations and individuals.

Learn more at [www.ndrpa.com](http://www.ndrpa.com).

**NORTH DAKOTA RECREATION & PARK ASSOCIATION  
2026 DR. SANDRA MODISSETT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**Application Form**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address (City, State, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone #: Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address (City, State, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

University/College Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Major Area of Study: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: Sophomore: \_\_\_\_\_ Junior: \_\_\_\_\_ Senior: \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NDRPA Member Since: Year \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Professional References (list two professional references including one from your university/college):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Email or Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Email or Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Checklist of Application Criteria that MUST be Included:**

**A. Application Form**

**B. Current Academic Transcript:** A copy of your academic transcript must be included in order to receive scholarship consideration. Unofficial transcripts from self-service student information centers (i.e. Campus Connection) will be accepted.

**C. Question Responses: Please use separate sheets of paper or an attachment for the following responses.**

1. Tell the committee about yourself at this point of your academic career, including interests, abilities, character, and honors/awards, as well as how you relate to other people, etc.
2. What experiences have you had as either a participant or leader in recreational activities, your college/university classes or as a leader or member of group activities that have inspired your decision for a professional career in this area.
3. What do you envision as your role in recreation/leisure/natural resources/tourism/sport management in the next 20 years?
4. How will this scholarship influence or be meaningful in your future role as a professional leader?

**Please submit by April 1, 2026, to:**

**Email:** ndrpaoffice@gmail.com

**Mail:**

NDRPA  
Attn: Scholarship Committee  
P.O. Box 1091  
Bismarck, ND 58502