

2026 KARL KNAPP EMERGING LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

APPLICATION INFORMATION

PURPOSE: This program provides financial support to students and young professionals who would otherwise be unable to attend California Trails & Greenways.

SCHOLARSHIP INCLUDES:

Scholarship funds will cover some or all of these costs - early bird registration, lodging and/or transportation. Transportation funds are limited. We strongly encourage scholarship applicants to demonstrate some contribution of personal funds towards their attendance of the event.

1. Full Event Scholarship:
 - One full early bird event registration which includes certain meals
 - Up to two nights lodging at event hotel or equivalent or up to two nights at a nearby campground
 - Travel reimbursement (receipts are required; not to exceed \$250)
2. Partial Event Scholarship:
 - One full early bird event registration which includes certain meals
 - Lodging and travel not included

Note: Scholarship recipients are responsible for meals not provided by event registration and any costs associated with workshops, guests, or merchandise.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS & SELECTION CRITERIA:

Scholarship recipients are expected to participate fully in the events and all scheduled activities, including keynote presentations, educational sessions, and networking opportunities. In addition, scholarship recipients are asked to complete a report of their attendance including photos. The following are the eligibility requirements:

- Ages 18 to 25 (at start of the event)
- Resident of California
- Proven interest in and commitment to trails, outdoor recreation or careers related to trails
- Attending or plans to attend college to pursue recreation, conservation, or related field of study
- Has work experience on a trail related project (as a volunteer ok)
- Demonstrates financial need
- Has not received a Karl Knapp scholarship in the past 3 years

APPLICATION:

Interested individuals may submit Application Form and a one-page essay describing your interest, need and how you meet the criteria. Applications will be accepted until March 13, 2026. Selected applicants will be notified by March 27, 2026. Scholarships will be awarded as applications are received and until available funding is expended. Submit questions and application to victoria@catrailsconference.org.

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APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Organization/College: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____ **Phone / Cell:** _____

I represent the following:

- College Student
- Youth Job Corp
- Non-Profit Organization
- Agency with Limited Resources
- Working Professional
- Other (please explain) _____

Which best describes your race/ethnicity:

- African American/Black
- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- White/Caucasian
- Spanish/Hispanic/Latino Descent
- Other: _____
- Prefer not to answer

Sex: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Prefer not to answer

If you are not selected as a scholarship recipient, will you be able to attend the event?

Yes No Maybe, please explain: _____

Essay attached.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Submit application to Victoria Stehl at victoria@catrailsconference.org by March 13, 2026.