

What Can I Do With a Major in Therapeutic Recreation?

Possible Career Options

(some career options could require advanced study)

Camp Director
 Community Center Director
 Fitness Instructor/Specialist
 Industrial Recreation Specialist
 Municipal Recreation Director
 Prison Recreation Specialist
 Recreation Facility Manager
 Recreation Instructor
 Recreation Therapist

Possible Places for Employment:

(some career options could require advanced study)

After Care Agencies
 Hospitals
 Mental Retardation Centers
 Non-Profit Agencies
 Nursing Homes
 Prisons
 Public Recreation Centers
 Rehabilitation Centers
 School Districts
 Summer Camps

Transferable Skills

Enhances the lifestyle of individuals through a wide range of activities

Relates and interacts with people of varying ages & backgrounds

Knows recreational and leisure theories and therapeutic recreation practices

Uses recreational activities to promote optimal functioning

Possesses good health and physical stamina

Leads, directs, and supervises others

Understands dynamics of groups

Organizes and coordinates activities

Solves problems and makes appropriate decisions

Communicates well both orally and in writing

Maintains composure in stressful situations

Employment Sites

Past interns and graduates have worked at:

Boys Village
Cincinnati Recreation Commission
Crestline Hospital
Dale Roy School
Drake Career Center
Firelands Hospital
Good Shepherd
Grande Point Healthcare
Health Hill
MaComb Oakland Regional Center Office
Massillon Community Hospital
MedCentral
Mental Health Services of Clarke County
Metro Health Center
Mohican School of Out of Doors
Outlook Point
YMCA of Ashland

Experiential Education

Leading activities for students with disabilities at summer camp

Volunteering as an assistant at a rehabilitation center

Running summer activities program at resort catering to families with disabled members

Leading therapeutic horse riding program

Providing respite aid to families with disabled children

Coaching Special Olympics team

Developing activities program for retirement centers

Additional Resources

Ferguson - *Careers in Focus: Coaches & Fitness Professionals*

Ferguson - *Exploring Health Care Careers Volume 1 and 2*

Field, Shelly - *Career Opportunities in Health Care*

Field, Shelly - *Career Opportunities in the Sports Industry*

Jenson, Clayne & Naylor, Jay - *Opportunities in Recreation and Leisure Careers*

National Health Council - *270 Ways to put Your Talent to Work in the Heart Field*

Swanson, Barbara - *Careers in Health Care*

US Department of Labor - *Occupational Outlook Handbook*

Professional Associations

American Therapeutic Recreation Association, www.atra-tr.org

National Recreation and Park Association, www.nrpa.org