

Opportunity Spotlight:

Michigan's Annual Planning Conference: Planning Michigan 2025

October 22-24, 2025 | Radisson Plaza Hotel & Suites Kalamazoo

Join over 400 planners across the state to launch your career. This is an opportunity to forge connections with potential employers, learn about the latest innovations directly from practitioners, and explore real-world solutions on today's planning challenges.

This year's conference features sessions focused on emerging planners, with a series of presentations dedicated to cultivating planning leadership, navigating the field as a new or non-traditional planner, and providing key insights for the AICP exam.

Member Registration: \$440 | **Student Members: \$80** | Non-Members: \$515

► [View the conference agenda](#) ► [More details and registration](#)



A Welcome Message from MAP's Executive Director: Andrea Brown, AICP

As the Executive Director of the Michigan Association of Planning (MAP), I am writing to welcome you back to your planning studies, or to welcome you to planning school if you are just entering a new degree program. As the professional association for community planners throughout Michigan, MAP wants to be with you every step of the way, starting now.



The American Planning Association (APA), our parent organization, provides FREE memberships to planning students across the country as a way to reinforce what you are learning in school, build on your studies, and provide a professional home that you can turn to again and again - now as a student, soon as an Emerging Professional Planner (EPP), and later as a full-fledged professional planner.

MAP is here for you. Look for upcoming events and professional development opportunities in MAP's monthly Student Bulletin, or feel free to reach out to me or our student member liaison Andy Larsen, AICP Candidate (alarsen@planningmi.org) about ways to connect.

-- Andrea Brown, AICP
abrown@planningmi.org

Planning Student Opportunities:



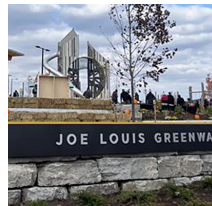
[2025 APA SCD JEDI Scholar Program](#) | **Deadline: 9/30**

Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Scholar Program. The scholar program has been established to assist students from underrepresented group who are pursuing a degree in planning with an interest in sustainability. This scholar program includes an award of \$1,500.



[Black Student Conference Scholarship \(BSCS\)](#) | **Deadline: 10/3**

The BSCS provides a scholarship for Black students in Michigan planning programs to attend MAP's annual Planning Michigan Conference. This non-monetary scholarship covers all costs, including registration, travel (gas card), and lodging.



[APA Student Planning and Design Competition](#)

The 2026 Competition centers on the Joe Louis Greenway, a 47-acre site in Detroit's Davison-Schoolcraft neighborhood. Detroit will also host the 2026 National Planning Conference. The full competition prompt and Q&A will be released shortly.

Shape the 2026 Student MAP Conference!

Planning for the 2026 Student MAP Conference is officially kicking off! This year's conference is scheduled for Saturday, February 7th, on the campus of Michigan State University.

To make this the best event possible, we are forming a student steering committee to shape the conference. We would love to have representatives from as many planning programs as possible join us.

If you are interested in taking on a leadership role, [please express your interest via this form](#).

We will review all submissions at the end of the month and notify selected committee members shortly thereafter.

Already Graduated?

If so, congratulations! We hope you continue to be involved with MAP and take advantage of the support we offer with professional development, AICP exam preparation, and more.

If you are interested in a Michigan Chapter-Only membership, the fee is discounted to \$30 a year for up to three years following graduation. Please reply to this email for more information on the \$30 Emerging Planning Professionals rate.

APA also offers a new members 2-year introductory rate. For more information, please visit <https://www.planning.org/join/dues/>.