

# RETAIL ASSET PROTECTION CONFERENCE 2015

May 3 - 6

Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center • Orlando, Florida



## 2015 Retail Asset Protection Conference College Student Program

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND APPLICATION

Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center  
Orlando, FL  
May 3-6, 2015

**As the U.S. economy struggles to rebound from the recent recession and the unemployment rate remains high, today's soon-to-be college graduates have fewer employment opportunities than those who came before them. As a result, the competition is fierce among those eager to enter the job market immediately upon graduation. Anything that gives one applicant a competitive advantage over another could be the difference between a full-time job and the unemployment line. RILA's College Student Program affords undergraduate an opportunity to gain a competitive advantage over their peers.**

#### **About RILA**

Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA) is a trade association of the largest and fastest growing companies in the retail industry. Its member companies include over 200 retailers, product manufacturers, and service suppliers, which together account for over \$1.5 trillion in annual sales. RILA members operate over 150,000 stores, manufacturing facilities and distribution centers, have facilities in all 50 states, and provide millions of jobs domestically and worldwide.

## PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

### **Applicant must:**

- be a full-time undergraduate student with at least a junior standing and have completed at least 60 credit hours at the beginning of the upcoming academic year.
- have a minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale (or the equivalent if college or university uses a higher scale).
- be interested in a career in a retail related field such as AP or retail management.

The college student program is open to all students meeting eligibility requirements on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, creed, religion, age or sex of applicant.

Students must complete the application in its entirety. Incomplete applications will not be considered. All required material must be typed or legibly printed. Completed applications will be reviewed by RILA and student mentor companies. Selection will be based solely on the information contained in the application and supporting documentation. All applications submitted are the property of RILA and will not be returned.

## STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

Students selected to participate in the program are required to attend RILA's 2015 Retail Asset Protection Conference to be held May 3-6, 2015 in Orlando, FL. Students are required to participate in the student breakout session (described below) to be held at the conference on May 5. Presentation rehearsals will be held on May 4 and 5. At a minimum, students are required to be at the conference for both session rehearsals and the student breakout session. **No exceptions will be made.** Additionally, students are encouraged to attend the conference in its entirety to take full advantage of all of the educational sessions, the exhibit floor and networking events. Students' expenses associated with his/her attendance at the conference will be covered.

Through RILA's College Student Program, select undergraduate students are "sponsored by" a participating retailer and/or solution provider. Students are assigned a single project that focuses on a process, program, or strategy currently in place or under consideration at the sponsor company or in the industry at-large. The project's primary objective is to measure the effectiveness of the process, policy or strategy and identify any opportunities for enhancement that will maximize the company's profitability. To assist in their information gathering and analysis, each student is mentored by asset protection executives from his/her sponsoring retailer/solution provider. The students report-out on their respective findings during a presentation to retail executives across the industry at RILA's annual Retail Asset Protection Conference.

Students should commit to spend at least two hours a week from February 1 – May 3 on their project.

## Benefits to Participation

The RILA College Student Program affords students the opportunity to:

- Learn about retail asset protection from industry executives who are experts in their field
- Showcase their knowledge and skill-set to potential employers
- Attend a best-in-class educational conference
- Network with nearly 1,000 retail executives in attendance at the conference
- Receive a scholarship to complete the Loss Prevention Foundation's (LPF) [Loss Prevention Qualified \(LPQ\)](#) certification course and examination upon completion of their student session presentation at the conference
- Receive complimentary enrollment in the [Academic and Retail Partnership Program](#) (guarantees students who have earned the LPQ certification, a job interview with one or more participating retailers)
- Receive one year complimentary membership to the LPF (students will have access to countless resources as they prepare for the job market).

The Student Program is a win-win for the student, the sponsoring companies and the retail industry. The student has the chance to gain keen insight into retail operations, network with top retail executives and showcase their skill set to key decision makers at some of the largest and most progressive employers in the U.S. The sponsoring companies have the chance to observe talent-in-the-making and gain insight into the effectiveness of their processes. And, the retail industry benefits from hearing the students' presentation and learning from other retailers' experiences.

## STUDENT APPLICATION CRITERIA

Applicants must submit to RILA:

- a completed 2014 RILA Retail Asset Protection Conference Student Program Application.
- a college or university transcript.
- an essay.
- one letter of recommendation.

### Essay requirements:

Essay should be limited to 400 words and respond to the following:

- What are your career goals?
- What does attending the 2015 RILA Retail Asset Protection Conference mean to you?
- What do you hope to take away from the conference, particularly as it relates to your career goals?

Applications with all required documents are due by **January 30, 2015** to Kelly Murphy at [Kelly.murphy@rila.org](mailto:Kelly.murphy@rila.org).

# 2015 Retail Asset Protection College Student Program Application

Please complete all sections

## **SECTION I – APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Full Name

Present Mailing Address  Apt.

City/Province  State/Country

Zip/Postal Code  Cell #  Alt #

Email Address

Permanent Mailing Address  Apt.

City/Province  State/Country

Zip/Postal Code  Home #

## **SECTION II – EDUCATION INFORMATION**

List college and/or university attended: *(If more space is needed, attach separate sheet.)*

Name of Institution  City/State

Attended From  To

Graduation Date:  Degree:

GPA:  on a scale of

Major:

Minor:

Name of Institution  City/State

Attended From  To

Graduation Date:  Degree:

GPA:  on a scale of

Major:

Minor:

Identify the five (5) courses you have completed which you believe are most important for your anticipated career.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Please list your extra-curricular activities outside of academics.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**I hereby certify that all the information contained in this application is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Send application with all required documents by January 30 to [Kelly.murphy@rila.org](mailto:Kelly.murphy@rila.org).

**Questions? Contact:**

Kelly Murphy- 703.600.2077