



Application for 20 on the Rise

The **National Apartment Association's 20 on the Rise** celebrates the brightest rising stars with 10 years or less experience in the rental housing industry.

The following items are required to properly submit a valid online application for NAA's 20 on the Rise.

Submitters Contact Information

- First Name
- Last Name
- Job Title
- Work Email Address
- Personal Email Address
- Work Phone Number
- Cell Phone Number
- Mailing Address
- Community Name (if applicable)
- Organization Name

Membership Information

- Is your community or company an NAA member?
Selections: Yes/No
- Please specify your membership type.
Selections: Property Management, Supplier, Independent Rental Owner, Affiliate/Association Staff
- Please select the name of your local apartment association.
Selections: 140 local apartment association names in alphabetical order

Demographic Information

- What of the following best describes your current gender identity?
Selections: Male, Female, Transgender, Non-binary/non-conforming, Prefer not to answer and Other
- How would you best describe your race/ethnicity(ies)? (Select all that apply)
Selections: Caucasian, Black or African American, Latino or Hispanic, Asian, Native American, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, Two or More, Other, Prefer not to answer
- Do you identify as a person with a disability(ies)?
Selections: Yes, No, Prefer not to answer
- What is the HIGHEST level of education you have completed?
Selections: Some high school, High School Graduate, Associate Degree or Equivalent, Bachelors/Undergraduate Degree, Masters/Graduate Degree, PhD/Doctoral Degree, Other, Prefer not to answer

Professional Background Information

- How many years have you worked in rental housing?
- Resume * Please upload a copy of your **current** resume. [File Upload]
- Professional Biography * Please provide a 100 words or less professional biography (written in the third-person point of view). Should you be selected for the Class of 2026, this bio will be featured in an issue of units magazine.

Application Questions (All responses – 200 words MAX)

➤ Career Achievement & Involvement

- Share your story through multifamily (where did you start and how did you get to where you are today?)
- What is the biggest challenge you've experienced in your career and how did you overcome it?
- Are you involved with your local/state/national association? Yes/No
 - If yes, how has the association helped you in your career?
 - If no, what barriers have prevented you from getting involved?**Local association involvement is not required but is encouraged.*
- If you are selected and recognized as a leader on the rise, how will you contribute to the industry moving forward?

➤ Self-Reflection (Please answer ONE.)

- How do you demonstrate leadership (formally or informally) within your team, community or company?
- What do people come to you for? What makes you a trusted, go-to resource?
- Why do you believe you should be recognized as one of the *20 on the Rise*?

➤ Industry Reflection (Please choose ONE.)

- Give an example of a time you challenged the status quo (the way it's always been done) or share something you plan to challenge soon. What was the situation, what actions did you take (or plan to take) and what was the outcome?
- How have you used technology, data, or new ideas to enhance the renter, employee or owner experience?

Industry Advocate Letter of Recommendation

Identify an advocate, working in the rental housing industry, who can provide an assessment of your leadership skills. Ask them to answer the following questions within their letter of recommendation:

1. How do you know the scholarship candidate?
2. What are the candidate's greatest strengths and weaknesses?
3. What about the candidate do you want to highlight for this scholarship?

[File Upload]

**Professional Letters of recommendation should be on company letterhead and should include the advocate's contact information.*

Mentor Preferences

If selected for 20 on the Rise, you will be assigned a mentor. Please answer the following questions to help NAA understand your preferences for the mentor that will be assigned to you. Please note, we may not be able to accommodate all preferences requested.

- What primary job title would you like your mentor to hold?
Select one or more options: Owner/President/Principal, Vice President/Corporate Executive, Property Manager, Regional Property Supervisor/Manager, Regional Maintenance Supervisor, Maintenance Professional, Leasing Professional, Independent Rental Owner, Marketing Sales, Information Technology, Asset Manager, Training/Development, Human Resources, Association Executive/Staff, Supplier, No Preference, Other
- What primary business would you like your mentor to be in?
Select one or more options: Apartment Owner & Manager, Apartment Fee Manager, Asset Management, Association Staff, Real Estate Investment Trust, Architect/Engineering, Apartment Industry Supplier, Independent Rental Owner, Supplier, No Preference, Other
- Do you have a preference if your mentor is female or male?
Selections: Yes, I prefer a female; Yes, I prefer a male; No, I have no preference
- Do you prefer your mentor to be a particular race, age group or sexual orientation? If so, please specify.
- Please list other preferences or information you would like us to consider as we match you. (e.g. I would like to be matched with an African American Female who works in finance in my region).
- If you have a suggestion for a colleague(s) that you would like to serve as your mentor, please list the name(s) and email(s) here. We will contact them to submit a 20 on the Rise Mentor application for consideration.

Photo Request & Disclaimer

- Upload Professional headshot.
This photo will be used in winner announcements via print, email and website.
- Photo & Video Disclaimer: I hereby grant the National Apartment Association permission to use my likeness in a photograph, video, or other digital media (“photo”) in any and all of its publications, including web-based publications, without payment or other consideration.
Selections: Yes/No
- Signature
- Date