Professional Golf Turf Management School

TWO-YEAR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Fall Session: October 2 - December 13, 2019
Winter Session: January 6 - March 18, 2020

Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station
Office of Continuing Professional Education and Center for Turfgrass Science
ABOUT US

The Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School is a world-class learning center that has trained thousands of successful greenskeepers in the art and science of golf course management. To ensure you receive a well-rounded education, the #RUTurf team of instructors includes both distinguished faculty and acclaimed industry professionals. To strengthen your skills and enhance your industry relationships, our programs consist of classroom lectures, hands-on field training, and real-world experience via a paid internship. Our alumni lead the industry and work at top golf courses around the world. We hope to help you build your career in the same way!

WHY RUTGERS?

CAREER ADVANCEMENT
Over 4,700 golf turf professionals, from all 50 states and 18 countries, have graduated from our two-year certificate program since 1962. More than 730 of these alumni are currently working as golf course superintendents or leaders in related turfgrass careers. Plus, an additional 600+ Rutgers turf alumni are assistant superintendents worldwide. Add this widely respected credential to your resume to grow your career.

CONVENIENCE
Our two ten-week classroom sessions are sandwiched around a nine-month break, during which you must complete a paid 200+ hour internship. Designed to minimize your time away from work and home, this is a great opportunity to quickly attain the education you need without breaking the bank or putting your career on hold.

NETWORKING
Become part of our prestigious network of Rutgers turfgrass alumni. Throughout your career, whether you are searching for a job for yourself, looking to hire someone for your greens team, or have technical questions, the Rutgers alumni network will serve you as an invaluable resource.

PRACTICAL CONTENT
Learn what you need to keep your course at peak playability. Our certificate program will refine and develop your technical skills. You’ll learn the science behind turfgrass management and how to implement real-world solutions to any challenges that come your way.
CURRICULUM

APPLIED GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT
- Budgeting and Financial Management
- Golf Course Construction
- Growth Regulators
- Introduction to Soil Fertility
- Irrigation Principles
- Landscape Design
- Landscape Management
- Mathematics for Golf Course Superintendents
- Mower Technology and Reel Grinding
- Principles of Golf Course Design
- Stress Physiology
- Surveying
- Tournament Preparation Strategies
- Turfgrass Establishment and Maintenance

PEST & DISEASE MANAGEMENT
- Insect and Disease Laboratory
- Insects and Diseases of Ornamental Plants
- Principles of Integrated Pest Control
- Turfgrass Disease Identification
- Turfgrass Insects and Weeds

PLANT BIOLOGY
- Agronomic Characteristics of Turfgrass Species and Varieties
- Botany of Turfgrass and Ornamentals
- Landscape Plants
- Ornamental Grasses
- Plant Physiology
- Soil Fertility
- Turfgrass Identification and Development

CRITICAL THINKING FOR SUCCESS
- Case Studies in Turfgrass Management
- Regional Concerns
- Turfgrass Work Experience

HANDS-ON TRAINING
Hands-on training in our on-site workshop and greenhouse demonstrates concepts learned in the classroom. You will have the chance to participate in soil tests, reel grinding demonstrations, plant identification walks, sprayer calibration, spreader training, irrigation pipe fitting, disease identification using microscopes, and more.

FIELD TRIPS
During your two ten-week sessions at Rutgers, you will visit some of the world’s most highly-rated golf courses, including Baltusrol Golf Club, Pine Valley Golf Club, and Trump National Golf Club in Philadelphia. You will also tour the United States Golf Association (USGA) Museum and Archives and go “behind the scenes” in their testing laboratory.

REQUIRED INTERNSHIP
Students are required to complete 200+ hours of field experience (paid internship) following their first ten-week session in the program. You may complete your internship in your current position or we can help you locate an internship. Requirements for all internships include maintaining a daily log of activities and participating in various cultural practices. Students present their field experience activities in written and oral reports during their second ten-week session.

FOR CURRICULUM DETAILS: www.golfturf.rutgers.edu/CURRICULUM
OUR FOUNDER, OUR ROOTS

In the 1960s, Dr. Ralph Engel spearheaded research in weed and insect control to improve the quality of turfgrasses. Devoting his 40+ year career to turf development, Dr. Engel also pioneered the concept of turfgrass consultation visits, which became the basis for the current USGA Green Section Turf Advisory Service. Because he believed in mentoring first, encouragement second and, finally, exposure to the finest educators, he established our Two-Year Certificate Program.

Part of Rutgers University, the eighth oldest college in the US and one of the “colonial colleges” founded before the American Revolution, The Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School continues to honor Dr. Engel’s vision with our world-renowned learning center.

LEARN FROM THE BEST

To give you a well-rounded and practical education, we have gathered the best turf instructors from both the academic community and golf turf industry. You will learn from distinguished Rutgers professors, who conduct leading research on topics such as breeding improved turfgrass species that are pest resistant, stress tolerant, and drought resistant. You will also receive personalized attention from established superintendents, expert plant diagnostic specialists, industry-leading irrigation contractors, and prominent turf consultants. Dedicated to your education, our teachers work tirelessly to make sure you have a complete understanding of the information you need. You’ll leave Rutgers able to make effective decisions to prevent and solve issues on your golf course. Plus, you will always have the Rutgers team at your fingertips to leverage as a resource throughout your career.

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
  Dr. Robert M. Goodman, Executive Dean; NJ Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES)
  Brian Schilling, Associate Director; NJ Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES)

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, OFFICE OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
  Kenneth M. Karamichael, Director
  Josh Honig, Student/Curriculum Advisor

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, CENTER FOR TURFGRASS SCIENCE
  Dr. Bruce Clarke, Director
  Dr. William A. Meyer, Associate Director

MEET OUR TEAM: www.golfturf.rutgers.edu/FACULTY
PROGRAM DETAILS

SCHEDULE AND DATES
Our intensive program is designed to fit conveniently around your work schedule. Classes meet five days a week (for a minimum of six hours a day) for ten weeks during the off-peak season. Program content and admission requirements for the fall and winter sessions are identical.

FALL 2019: October 2 - December 13, 2019
Students attending their first year in the Fall of 2019 will return for their second year in the Fall of 2020.

WINTER 2020: January 6 - March 18, 2020
Students attending their first year in the Winter of 2020 will return for their second year in the Winter of 2021.

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS AND ASSESSMENT
Your performance will be evaluated in each class based on a combination of examinations, term papers, projects, attendance, and class participation. You should allow approximately 20 hours per week for homework and studying. Certificates are awarded to students who attend both semesters of class work, maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0, and complete a summer field internship.

TUITION
For Fall 2019 and Winter 2020, tuition is $5,095 (same rate applies to both NJ and out-of-state residents) for each ten-week session. If tuition is not paid in full one month prior to the first day of class, an additional $250 fee will be charged. If tuition rates increase after your first year, your second year tuition rate will NOT go up; tuition remains the same for both sessions. Tuition is payable upon acceptance to our program by credit card, certified check, or money order. Personal checks are not accepted.

FINANCIAL AID
Our turf program qualifies for student loans that can cover the full cost of tuition and living expenses, including travel, lodging, and books. Lifetime learning tax credits and veterans benefits may also be available to you. Scholarships through Rutgers and outside organizations are another great way to offset tuition costs.

LOCATION
Classroom sessions will be held in New Brunswick, NJ on Cook Campus, at the Ralph Geiger Turfgrass Education Center, and the Holly House. Our turfgrass research complex and the Rutgers Display Gardens become an extension of your classroom. Campus is also only an hour away from two major cities, New York City and Philadelphia.

STUDENT HOUSING
We provide a wide variety of discounted, off-campus housing options. You should budget between $2,000 and $6,000 for housing per each ten-week session. We are happy to help you secure housing and/or provide resources to connect you with other turf students looking for roommates.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES
Rutgers Global provides immigration services and advising to help international students maintain legal status while attending Rutgers. Contact Carissa McCarthy at carissam@global.rutgers.edu or visit www.global.rutgers.edu/international-scholars-students for more information.

FOR MORE PROGRAM DETAILS:
www.golfturf.rutgers.edu/2YEAR
CONSIDERING AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE?

Rutgers University and the Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science (CTS) offer a four-year undergraduate program leading to a bachelor of science degree in Plant Biology with a Turfgrass Management or Turfgrass Science option. The Turfgrass Management option at Rutgers will help prepare students for employment as golf course superintendents, sports field managers, lawn and landscape professionals, sod producers, or for employment in allied fields within the green industry. The Turfgrass Science option prepares students to continue their education towards an advanced degree, such as a masters or doctoral degree.

WHAT IS THE RUTGERS ADVANTAGE?
- Internationally recognized turfgrass program
- World-class faculty
- Focused turfgrass curriculum
- Low student/teacher ratios
- Strong faculty commitment to students
- Assistance with internship and job placement
- Excellent scholarship opportunities (over $80,000 in scholarships each year)
- Flexible degree options
- Applied learning opportunities
- Outstanding educational facilities

WHY STUDY TURFGRASS MANAGEMENT?
Turfgrass is a multi-billion dollar industry in the United States. College degrees or specialized training are essential for the maintenance of golf courses, professional sports fields, parks, athletic field complexes, and high quality landscapes for businesses, homes, and communities. A major in turfgrass management would appeal to people interested in environmental enhancement and design, as well as the creation and maintenance of high quality recreational areas. Students in this major gain a strong understanding of the importance of turfgrass in land use, management, and development. The industry-wide demand for well-trained turfgrass managers with four-year degrees increases every year.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO RUTGERS GRADUATES?
The turfgrass industry is vast and constantly expanding. If you love the outdoors or have a great appreciation for nature, check out the list below for exciting career possibilities in the field of turfgrass management:
- Golf Course Superintendent
- Landscape Contractor
- Sports Field Manager
- Research Scientist
- Irrigation Installer
- Golf Course Designer
- Private Consultant
- Commercial Lawn Care Professional
- Plant Breeder, Seed Industry
- Sod Producer
- Park Manager
- Chemical Sales Professional
- Equipment Sales Professional
- Teacher
- Small Business Owner

Talen Energy Stadium, Chester, PA | Photo: Sebastian Elliott, Current Student
HOW MUCH MONEY CAN YOU MAKE AS A TURFGRASS PROFESSIONAL?

In general, entry-level salaries in a variety of different career paths in turfgrass management can range from $40,000 to $75,000. Experienced career professionals can earn well over $100,000 per year. A few examples include:

- Golf course superintendents can make over $75,000, with high-end salaries of well over $150,000
- Research scientists command salaries ranging from $60,000 to more than $100,000 annually
- Landscape contractors earn $50,000 to $80,000 annually
- Irrigation contractors earn $40,000 to $70,000 annually
- Lawn care professionals earn $40,000 to $100,000 or more annually

LEARN MORE ABOUT UNDERGRADUATE STUDY

Rutgers University Center for Turfgrass Science
School of Environmental and Biological Sciences (SEBS)
59 Dudley Road, Foran Hall, Room 366, New Brunswick, NJ

Josh A. Honig, Ph.D., Undergraduate Recruiting Coordinator
Email: josh.honig@rutgers.edu | Phone: 848.932.6281

Bruce B. Clarke, Ph.D., Director, Extension Specialist in Turf Pathology
Email: clarke@njaes.rutgers.edu | Phone: 848.932.6295

Anne Diglio, Administrative Assistant
Email: anne.diglio@rutgers.edu | Phone: 848.932.6396

FOR UNDERGRADUATE OPTIONS:
http://turf.rutgers.edu
THE RUTGERS PROFESSIONAL GOLF TURF MANAGEMENT SCHOOL’S THREE-WEEK PREPARATORY COURSE

**Dates:** Jan. 13 - 31, 2020  |  **Times:** 8:30am to 3:30pm (M-F)  |  **Fees:** $1,995 on/before 12/14/19; $2,245 after

Learn the essentials of turfgrass management with the intensive curriculum of our condensed three-week class. Taught by the same great instructors as our Two-Year Certificate Program, you will study concepts in the classroom and participate in hands-on soil tests, irrigation pipe fitting demonstrations, and plant identification walks.

**Featured Topics**
- Soils, fertility, and nutrition
- Turf selection, establishment, maintenance, and renovation
- Identification and control of diseases, insects, and weeds
- Irrigation repair and maintenance
- Equipment selection and maintenance
- Landscape design and construction
- Management skills and professional development

**Who Should Attend?**
- Experienced greenskeepers who need formal education to advance their careers
- Those new to the industry seeking to learn the basics and jump-start an exciting new career in turfgrass management
- Golf course owners and general managers whose goals are better communication and coordination with their teams
- Industry sales representatives working to better understand the wants, needs, and terminology of their clients

Add a widely respected credential from internationally-recognized Rutgers University to your resume in just three weeks. There is no application process or prerequisites. Simply register and learn!

**FOR PROGRAM DETAILS:** [www.golfturf.rutgers.edu/3WEEK](http://www.golfturf.rutgers.edu/3WEEK)
ASK OUR GRADUATES, NOT US!

ROBERT FERGUSON  
2017 Graduate  
Assistant Superintendent  
The Stanwich Club  
Greenwich, Connecticut

“I would 100% say that earning the Rutgers 2-Year Certificate has helped me advance my career.”

Robert recently left his position at The Tuxedo Club in New York for a new opportunity at The Stanwich Club in Connecticut.

“Attending Rutgers definitely helped me achieve this goal by teaching me basic agronomy, preparing me for job interviews, and everything in between.”

BRIAN CARNEY  
2018 Graduate  
Assistant Supervising Greenskeeper  
Forge Pond Golf Course  
Brick, New Jersey

“The amount of valuable information I learned at Rutgers will forever help me run a successful and healthy golf course. I learned techniques that will promote better turf with fewer products and water usage.

“Rutgers has given me the confidence to be a leader and to strive for greatness. I have already recommended this class to my co-workers for next year.

“It was exciting to meet so many people who share my passion for turf maintenance. I plan to keep in touch with many of my classmates throughout my career. The instructors are knowledgeable and understanding; I definitely feel comfortable contacting them with any questions in the future.”

RONALD CAVALIERE  
2019 Graduate  
Assistant Superintendent  
Sebonack Golf Club  
Southampton, New York

“I learned more than I ever imagined possible in such a short amount of time and it helped me achieve one of my goals of becoming an Assistant Superintendent at Sebonack Golf Club.

“I look forward to seeing what the future has in store for me and to making the Rutgers family proud.”

CHARITABLE GIVING

The education and contacts made at The Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School have made a tremendous difference in the professional careers of thousands of men and women. We want others to experience that same success. Your donation to the Rutgers scholarship program will help give current students the financial support they need to accomplish their goals.

• For every 10 donors who provide a $50 gift, we can award one more student scholarship.
• We ask that you please send your tax-deductible donation either online or by check.
• You will receive a tax receipt from the Rutgers University Foundation, the 501(c)3 for the university.

To make a donation by mail, please make the check out to Rutgers University and address it to:  
The Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School  
ATTN: Fran Koppell, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

TO DONATE ONLINE: www.golfturf.rutgers.edu/TURF-SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION CHECKLIST

YOUR APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE:

[ ] A completed application form in print (included on the last page of this brochure) or online at: www.golfturf.rutgers.edu/ APPLY. Please provide all information. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

[ ] A letter of intent written by you describing your education and work experience, why you are applying to the Rutgers program, and how the course fits into your career plans.

[ ] A current resume or CV.

[ ] Two letters of recommendation from current or past supervisors describing your duties, responsibilities, and potential for success in our program. Work experience in the turfgrass industry or a related field is required. Please note that both letters can be from the same employer.

[ ] A copy of your high school and college transcripts or a copy of your GED certificate, if applicable.

[ ] A $50 non-refundable application fee. All checks should be made payable to Rutgers, The State University or you may pay online by credit card.

Items may be sent individually or as one complete package. When all pieces of your application have been received, it will be reviewed by the acceptance board. If you have any questions or need more information, feel free to contact us. We are happy to help every step of the way.

If mailing application items, please address them to:
The Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School, ATTN: Fran Koppell, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

If emailing application items, please send them to koppell@njaes.rutgers.edu.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JULY 26, 2019

Completed applications received after July 26, 2019 will be considered on a space available basis.
CONTACT INFORMATION
Name __________________________  __________________________  __________________________  __________________________  __________________________
(First)    (Middle)          (Last)                         (Name for Name Tag)
Home/Mailing Address (include Street, PO Box or Apt. #) __________________________________
City __________________________ State ________ Postal Code __________________________ Country________________________
Cell Phone __________________________  __________________________  International Visa Assistance Needed [ ] No    [ ] Yes
Home Phone __________________________  __________________________  Email Address __________________________
Person to Contact in an Emergency __________________________  __________________________  (Phone Number) __________________________

SESSION
Please indicate the session for which you are applying: (select only one)
[ ] Fall 2019  (Course Code AT0201CA20)        [ ] Winter 2020 (Course Code AT0201CB20)

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT US?
How did you hear about The Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School Two-Year Certificate Program?
[ ] Mail Code __________________________  [ ] Search Engine __________________________
[ ] Rutgers Website __________________________  [ ] Other Website __________________________
[ ] Referred by a Rutgers alumnus (Please specify) __________________________
[ ] Referred by my supervisor (Please specify) __________________________
[ ] Referred by a colleague (Please specify) __________________________

EDUCATION
High School Graduate?    [ ] No    [ ] Yes, Year ____________ Final Grade Point Average (GPA) ____________
College Graduate?    [ ] No    [ ] Yes, Year ____________ What type of degree?    [ ] Associate’s    [ ] Bachelor’s    [ ] Master’s
Final GPA ____________ Number of Credits Earned ____________ Certificate Earned?    [ ] No    [ ] Yes
Have you attended Rutgers Three-Week Preparatory Course?    [ ] No    [ ] Yes, Year ____________
Are you a US veteran?    [ ] No    [ ] Yes

WORK EXPERIENCE
Your Current Employer __________________________
Employment Dates - Full time ____________ Part time (seasonal) ____________
Position held __________________________  Supervisor __________________________
Previous Employer __________________________
Employment Dates - Full time ____________ Part time (seasonal) ____________
Position held __________________________  Supervisor __________________________

METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR YOUR $50 APPLICATION FEE
Proof of payment MUST be presented with this form to process your application.
For assistance with your application payment, please call 848.932.9271 option 2.
[ ] Check / Money Order (Checks payable to: Rutgers, The State University. Mail to Rutgers University, Office of Continuing Professional Education, Attn: Fran Koppell, 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8519)
[ ] Credit Card  (VISA, MasterCard, AMEX, and Discover accepted.) Visit: www.golfturf.rutgers.edu/APPLY.
We Are Here To Help!

Our team is here to help you every step of the way. Feel free to call or email Fran or Marissa at any time if you need help with choosing which program is best for you, the application process, securing a visa to enter the US, arranging housing, payment/financial aid issues, and anything else you may need. We would love to hear from you and are happy to discuss your opportunities here at Rutgers.

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SPREAD THE WORD!
SHARE WITH A COLLEAGUE, EMPLOYEE, OR FRIEND!
#RUTURF