Professional Golf Turf Management School
Two-Year Certificate Program

Fall 2020 Online & Fall 2021 On Campus*
Winter 2021 Online & Winter 2022 On Campus*

For health and safety reasons, the Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 sessions of our 2-Year Certificate Program will be conducted online. With minimal change to the curriculum, we will provide the exceptional education that the greens industry has come to expect from Rutgers University. We anticipate bringing our online students to the classroom for in-person networking and hands-on training during their second 10-week session, scheduled to begin in October 2021* and January 2022 respectively.

Fall 2020: ONLINE
October 7, 2020 - December 18, 2020
11am to 5pm EST, Monday through Friday
The online session will combine live classes that require your participation and prerecorded lectures that you will be able to view at your own pace.

FALL 2021: On Campus*
October 6, 2021 - December 17, 2021
8:30am to 2:30pm EST, Monday through Friday

WINTER 2021: ONLINE
January 6, 2021 - March 19, 2021
11am to 5pm EST, Monday through Friday
The online session will combine live classes that require your participation and prerecorded lectures that you will be able to view at your own pace.

WINTER 2022: On Campus*
January 5, 2022 - March 18, 2022
8:30am to 2:30pm EST, Monday through Friday

*Federal, state, and university regulations permitting
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 4,800 golf turf professionals, from all 50 states and over 20 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 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
- 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

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

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

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- Stress Physiology
- Surveying
- Tournament Preparation Strategies
- Turfgrass Establishment and Maintenance

MANAGEMENT OF GOLF COURSE PERSONNEL
- Effective Business Communication
- Managing Your Golf Course Employees
- Professional Development

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 ten-week session 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.

NOTE: Students who attend the Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 online sessions will have the opportunity to participate in hands-on training activities and field trips during their second 10-week session, which will be on campus* in Fall 2021 and Winter 2022 respectively.

*Federal, state, and university regulations permitting

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 turf industry. You will learn from distinguished Rutgers professors, who conduct 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, OFFICE OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
Kenneth M. Karamichael, Ed.M., Director
Josh A. Honig, Ph.D., Student/Curriculum Advisor
Fran Koppell, Senior Program Coordinator
Marissa Kosko, Program Assistant

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, CENTER FOR TURFGRASS SCIENCE
Bruce B. Clarke, Ph.D., Director
William A. Meyer, Ph.D., Associate Director

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
Robert M. Goodman, Ph.D., Executive Director
Brian Schilling, Ph.D., Sr. Associate Director

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, NEW BRUNSWICK
Christopher J. Molloy, Ph.D., Chancellor

MEET OUR TEAM: www.golfturf.rutgers.edu/FACULTY
Online Learning

For the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff and in accordance with Rutgers’ and state social distancing policies, the Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 sessions of our 2-Year Certificate Program will be conducted online.

The 10-week curriculum is the same as the on-campus course with as minimal change as possible. To allow for a flexible schedule, the program will combine the following types of classes:

> Live classes that require student participation (e.g., public speaking presentations). Students must be present during these live sessions.

> Live classes that encourage students to engage with instructors and each other. These classes will be recorded and available for the students who are unable to attend.

> Prerecorded lectures that you can view at your own pace.

To accommodate students across all time zones, online classes will begin at 11 am EST and we will schedule all live classes during the second and third periods of the day. Adaptations for international students will be made as required.

These online sessions are a great opportunity to cut travel and housing expenses in half while formally studying turfgrass science and management through Rutgers.

We anticipate bringing our online students to the classroom for in-person networking and hands-on training during their second 10-week session beginning in October of 2021 and January of 2022 respectively.

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Fall 2020 & Winter 2021 Dates

**FALL 2020: October 7, 2020 - December 18, 2020 | Online**
Classes will be offered from 11 am to 5 pm EST, Monday through Friday.

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Apply Today!

No matter which session you would like to attend, even if you are unsure, the first step to advancing your career with a formal 2-Year Certificate is to apply.
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, winter, and online sessions are identical.

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 field internship.

TUITION
For Fall 2020 and Winter 2021, tuition is $5,195 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.

Also, many students take advantage of employer assisted tuition programs. Because these arrangements are mutually beneficial, tuition service agreements are becoming more commonplace.

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. Field trips are local and transportation will be provided.

*Rutgers’ and state social distancing regulations permitting.

STUDENT HOUSING
We provide a wide variety of discounted, off-campus housing options, including local hotels, extended-stay facilities, and short term apartment rentals. You should budget between $2,000 and $6,000 for housing per each ten-week session.

Splitting accommodations is a great way to minimize living expenses. 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
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 of New Jersey 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@rutgers.edu.
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 ______________________________________________________________
(Name)                             (Relationship)                            (Phone Number)

SESSION
Please indicate the session for which you are applying: (select only one)
[ ] Fall 2020  (Course Code AT0201WA21)        [ ] Winter 2021 (Course Code AT0201CB21)

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 of New Jersey. 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.
Hear From Our Graduates!

CHASE CHRISTIAENS, 2014 Graduate
Golf Course Superintendent at Meridian Golf Club in Englewood, CO

“The Rutgers Two-Year Turf Certificate, along with many great mentors, definitely accelerated my path to where I am today. The network of connections, friendships, and resources I built by attending the program is second to none.

“The teaching staff are some of the best in the turf industry. The skills and resources they provided me with have created the turf professional I am today.

“The winter session fit perfectly into my work schedule and I would highly recommend the program to anyone serious about succeeding in the turf industry.”

JENNIFER TORRES, 2006 Graduate
Golf Course Superintendent at Westlake Golf and Country Club in Jackson, NJ

“I am positive that I would not be where I am today without the education and the network that began with me as the only female in the Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Program back in 2005. The school planted a seed that continues to grow.

“I am proud to continue to give back to the industry that has opened so many doors for me professionally. You get out of it, what you put into it!”

JAMES DOYLE, 2020 Graduate
Assistant Superintendent at Cypress Creek Golf Club in Cabot, AK

“The knowledge I gained at Rutgers about cultural and chemical control of turfgrass diseases and weeds, along with specific management practices, will help me to run a more productive and proactive system in the future.

“The group of people I have had the privilege of meeting while attending this program will allow each of us networking channels that will benefit us throughout our careers.

“The program has also allowed us to make lifelong friendships across the globe with different cultures and turf managements needs.”

We Are Here To Help!

Our team is here every step of the way. Feel free to call or email Fran or Marissa at any time for 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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Casey Sky Noon
Marketing Specialist
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