



Do you have an interest in golf and the environment?

### Program Description

The certificate program in Turfgrass Management with a golf course emphasis is directed toward preparing students for a rewarding career as a golf course superintendent or other career options in the golf industry. With well over 15,000 golf courses in the United States, there is a high demand for technically trained personnel to manage and service public and private golf courses.

The program in Golf Turf Management provides students with a solid background in plant science along with the specific expertise and skills needed for a career in golf course supervision and management. Students will be studying at a university with an international reputation in turfgrass research and turf education.

### Academics

This 18-month technical training program consists of two 15-week semesters and two 10-week semesters, for a total of 54 credit hours of instruction.

Students will take coursework in soil and landscape science, turfgrass management, plant biology, turfgrass irrigation, pesticide and fertilizer application, turf design and construction, golf course design & construction, and landscape maintenance. Electives in communication,

leadership, design, and safety will be selected based on the student's background and interests.

### Facilities

Most of the academic programs are conducted at the Plant and Soil Sciences Building, equipped with the latest in technology and laboratory equipment. The academic component is coupled with hands-on field experiences at the 160-acre Horticulture Teaching and Research Center on MSU's South Campus.

The entire Golf Turf Management program is shaped to provide students with the diverse educational experiences needed to excel in this competitive field.

### Internships

A critical component to the Golf Turf Management Program is a professional internship at one of the 15,000 golf courses throughout the country. From April to August students will be given an opportunity to apply their skills and face new challenges at a facility of their choice.

### Student Clubs and Organizations

Michigan State University offers over 600 Clubs and Organizations to round out the experience on campus. The Michigan State Turfgrass Club has a full schedule of social, golf and professional activities to help students grow personally and professionally.



## Career Opportunities

Michigan boasts over 1,047 public and private golf courses that are seeking well prepared graduates to meet the challenges in today's marketplace. MSU has consistently seen the demand for graduates from the Golf Turf Management program exceed the supply.

Starting salaries range from \$25,000 to \$45,000 and the entry point ranges from senior crewmember to assistant superintendent or even superintendent, depending on experience level.

## Admission Requirements

A high school diploma with at least a 2.50 GPA in traditional subjects (Math, English, Science, and History) is required. ACT or SAT scores are used as needed in the admission process.

Students must have at least one season of experience on a golf course maintenance or construction crew before starting this course of study. A letter of recommendation from the golf course superintendent is required with the application for admission.

Applications will be reviewed the middle of February each year. To ensure careful consideration students are encouraged to return their application as early as possible.

This is an excellent program for recent high school graduates, workers seeking to retrain or retool, and those seeking a career change or to explore new options.

## For More Information

Institute of Agricultural Technology  
Agriculture Hall  
446 W. Circle Dr., Room 120  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1039  
**Phone: 517.355.0190 or 888.247.4832**  
[www.iat.msu.edu](http://www.iat.msu.edu)

# Turfgrass Management Golf Course Certificate Program



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