



Turfgrass Apprenticeship Program

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

The University of Wisconsin Turfgrass Apprenticeship Program (TAP) consists of a 12-week, in-person educational bootcamp and a field-based apprenticeship at a golf course, athletic facility, or other turfgrass facility. The program provides participants with the hands-on, real-world experience needed to succeed in the turfgrass industry. Successful completion of both the bootcamp and the apprenticeship is required to earn the Turfgrass Apprenticeship Program Certificate.

Step 1: Educational Bootcamp

The bootcamp takes place over two 6-week terms during the late fall and winter. The fall term will begin the first week of November and end in mid-December. The winter term will begin the second week of January and end in late February. Each week will have class on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 AM until 3 PM CST with a 1-hour break for lunch.

Program cost is the same for in-state and out-of-state students. Check the website for current rates. Housing is not provided by UW-Madison, but we provide a number of affordable hotel options in the Madison area.

Significant scholarship funds will be available to support student tuition and housing costs from a variety of turfgrass associations. More information on scholarships and how to apply for them will be provided in the first week of class during the fall term.

Step 2: Field-based Apprenticeship

Students in the TAP are required to complete a field-based apprenticeship at a golf course, athletic complex, or other turf management facility of their choosing. A list of tasks to complete during the apprenticeship have been developed in cooperation with associations in the turfgrass industry and can be viewed on the program website.

How to Enroll

Please visit <https://turf.wisc.edu/academics/> and add your name to the enrollment form. Alternatively, contact Dr. Soldat or Dr. Koch via email (djsoldat@wisc.edu / plkoch@wisc.edu). The deadline for enrollment in the fall term is October 15th.



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