

GCSAA Certification Committee Update

I want to update our CGCS members on some outcomes at the certification meeting at GCSAA Headquarters on October 25-26, 1998.

During our two day meeting we discussed some correspondences from members and staff requests. We then sent our recommendations to GCSAA Board of Directors for changes to the professional Certification Code of Standards. Some of the correspondences that were acted on include:

1. To deny a request to consider CEU's for teaching a seminar vs. PDU's, which is currently given. Our committee has no authority to act on this request since the education committee sets criteria for CEU's.
2. To deny a request for a new category for PDU's to encompass professional achievement, such as winning award and environmental achievement. The committee felt the process would be too subjective.
3. The committee reviewed general correspondence from members requesting changes in the certification sliding scale in areas such as field experience. Continuing education and time spent as Assistant Superintendent. A motion to deny all requests was passed by the committee.
4. Staff requested the committee make judgement on whether correspondence courses can be repeated during the five year certification period. The committee decided not to allow correspondence courses to be repeated.

The following are recommendations that will be sent to the Board of Directors to amend sections of the Certification Code of Standards.

1. Revise PDU Categories:

#6 - Serving on national committee - 1.0 PDU maximum per renewal period, to include serving on GCSAA resource groups.

#7 - Serving as local or state GCSAA affiliated chapter officer - .5 PDU's per

year, to include officers of associations with International Allied Association (IAA) status.

#12 - Completion of ACSP Golf Course Certification - 1.0 PDU per renewal period, per person, to include .25 PDU's for re-certification of Golf Course with a maximum of 1.50 PDU within a five-year certification period.

#13 Participation in ACSP for schools .5 PDU upon completion of established checklist signed of by sponsoring school, to read "individual" participation in ACSP for schools.

2. Delete Selection 3, paragraph 3. of Chapter VII - Admission to certified status -employment with GCSAA.

3. Modify section 1, paragraph 1.1 of Chapter III - Eligibility for certification to include a separate category for individuals with a bachelor's degree in non turf plus an associate degree in turf or a 2 year turf certificate from a 4 year institution. These individuals would become eligible for certification with four years experience as a superintendent and 7.0 CEU's. This would become effective 7/1/99.

Other outcomes of the meeting included the use and implementation of the attestor training video. Selected attestors will be provided with the video and will sign an affidavit stating they have viewed it. The video will also be shown at the CGCS luncheon and certification workshops in Orlando. The fundamentals of Turfgrass Management by Dr. Nick Christians has been added to the list of suggested Study Material needed for the certification exam. And finally, the use of the CGCS designation by individuals no longer employed in the capacity of Superintendent was dismissed. As of this writing, a correspondence call is scheduled for December to clearly define the interpretation and enforcement of #14 in the Code of Standards, which is the use of the CGCS designation.

I will follow-up this letter with the

outcomes of these motions after the board acts on them this February.

If any members have any questions, please feel free to call me at (410) 434-1306 or Penny Mitchell at (800) 472-7378 ext. 434.

John Kotoski, CGCS

Certification Committee Member



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and yours a
Happy
Holiday Season!*

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