

## Are you eligible to test for STMA Certification?

**T**he STMA Certification Program (CSFM) has been gaining momentum with a 37% growth in certified members during the past 2 years. This growth indicates that information about the certification program is becoming more widely known, and that the designation is valued by the membership.

### What does it take to be certified?

Two criteria must be met:

- 1) Minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent
- 2) Achievement of 40 points, which are earned through a combination of education and experience

### How do you know if you have 40 points?

Points are awarded for the highest level of education you have attained and for the number of years of experience you have within the turf industry.

### Formal Education:

Advanced degree in turf/plant sciences: (Masters, Doctorate)	24 points
Bachelor Degree in turf/plant sciences	16 points
Bachelor Degree in non-turf	8 points
Associate Degree in turf/plant sciences	8 points
Associate Degree in non-turf	2 points

**Experience:** 1500 hours must be spent per year on the job to qualify for points

Sports Turf Manager	6 points/year
Assistant in Sports Turf	3 points/year
Sports Turf Crew	1 point/year
*Golf Course Superintendent	3 points/year
*Assistant Golf Course Superintendent	1.5 points/year

*\*No more than 50 percent of your total experience points can be earned on a golf course.*

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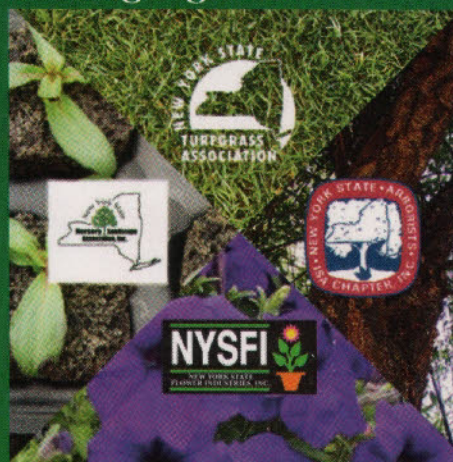
or call (800) 873-8873 or (518) 783-1229

43 NYSDEC  
Credits Offered!

1.85 GCSAA  
Education  
Points!

1.85 STMA  
CEUs Offered!

### Growing Together...

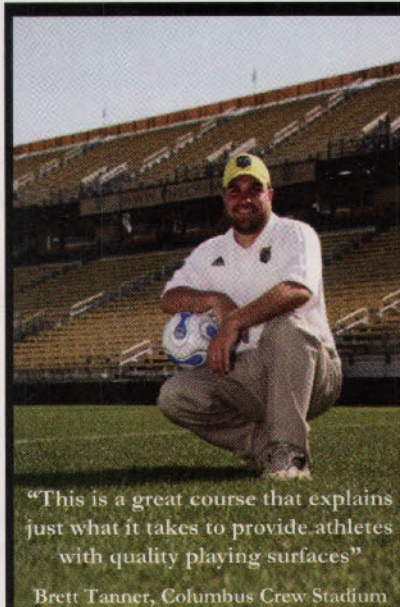


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### ONLINE

## SPORTS TURF CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

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courses for sports  
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**Two-year degree example:** If you have a 2-year degree in turf and a 4-year degree in communication, you would have achieved 8 points, (not 16 points). Education points are awarded for the **highest** level of education achieved.

**New Graduate example:** If you graduated this year with a 4-year degree in turf, agronomy, plant and soil sciences, etc. you automatically start with 16 points. Spend two years as an assistant and gain 6 points. Then you would need three years as a head sports turf manager to achieve the 18 points needed to be eligible to test.

**No degree example:** If you do not have a degree, the soonest you are eligible to test is seven years and all of those years must have been as a head sports turf manager. If you were an assistant for two years, you also gain points, but at half the rate as a head sports turf manager. Thus, you would be eligible in 8 years to sit for the exam.

**Former golf course superintendent with an Associate Degree in turf and 15 years as a head Superintendent example:** You are automatically awarded 8 points for your education. Thus, you need 32 points attained through experience. Remember, only 50 percent of your experience points can be gained from golf, which is 16 points, and you are awarded all 16 for the 15

years as a head superintendent. That leaves 16 points that you need to achieve from a position in sports turf.

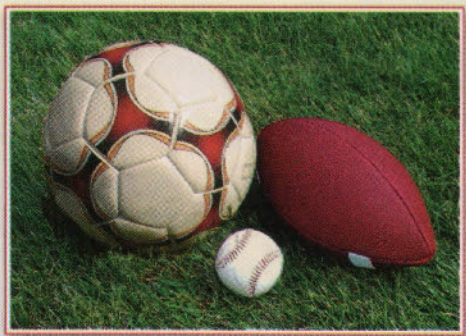
**Former sports turf manager who now works in the commercial sector example:** If you have a 4-year degree in turf, you are automatically awarded 16 points for your education. You were an assistant sports turf manager for 3 years and a head sports turf manager for 2 years. Thus, you have 37 points, but will not be eligible to test unless you move back to sports turf or to a golf course.

Please contact STMA at 800-323-3875 if you have any questions regarding the certification program.



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