



To Whom it May Concern:

At the Sports Field Management Association (SFMA), it is our mission to advance professionalism in sports field management and safety through education, awareness programs, and industry development. As we push to continue to be a recognized leader in strengthening the sports field industry and enhancing members' competence and acknowledgment of their professionalism, our hope is to continuously advance with the changing times to meet more individuals everywhere. Therefore, we are proud to offer the Sports Field Management Association (SFMA) Turfgrass Science Certification.

SFMA is proud to have over 2,600 members nationwide ranging from sports field managers to students and even those who are retired. The SFMA community is a diverse combination of members who work to merge the science of growing turfgrass and the art of maintaining fields to produce safe and aesthetically pleasing playing surfaces. Members of SFMA have seen remarkable career success and recognition of their professionalism and work. We know the SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification earners will also see the career success and recognition of professionalism that our members see.

The Turfgrass Science Certification will allow individuals to demonstrate a broad understanding of the knowledge related to the turfgrass science industry. Concepts such as turfgrass benefits, anatomy, identification, adaptations, environment, cultural practices, and playing surface preparation will all be addressed and evaluated. We believe this certification will give individuals a chance to prove their knowledge, dedication, and commitment to the sports field management industry

Whether an individual is looking to pursue a career in turfgrass management and sciences, looking to become more competitive in the job market, or simply looking for a way to prove their abilities, the SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification will help individuals of all ages and backgrounds find meaningful work in the sports field management industry.

The Sports Field Management Association (SFMA) Turfgrass Science Certification is an impactful step in growing the sports field management industry with qualified individuals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laura Simmons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Laura" and last name "Simmons" clearly legible.

Laura Simmons
Chief Executive Officer



Iowa State University
Department of Horticulture
107 Horticulture Hall
Ames, IA 50011-1100

6/4/2024

My name is Barb Clawson, and I am a Student Services Specialist III and Adjunct Associate Teaching Professor. As part of Iowa State's ongoing commitment to academic excellence and professional development, I am writing to propose the recognition and incentivization of individuals holding the Sports Field Management Association (SFMA) Turfgrass Science Certification.

The SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification is a significant achievement that reflects a deep understanding and proficiency in turfgrass science recognizing the importance of this certification, I propose the implementation of a structured program that guarantees an interview and offers higher compensation to individuals who possess the SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification when applying for positions within our academic institution.

Here are the key components of this proposal:

Guaranteed Interview: Individuals with the certification will be guaranteed an interview for turfgrass management at Iowa State University. This recognition underscores our commitment to attracting highly qualified professionals who bring valuable expertise in movement assessment and rehabilitation.

Higher Compensation: The expertise and commitment demonstrated by the certified individuals, we propose offering a higher base salary or additional compensation benefits compared to non-certified candidates. This serves as a tangible expression of our commitment to professional development and

I am excited to see where the SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification will lead these people. With this certification so many career doors can be opened, and I am thrilled to see the future of turfgrass science through those who choose to earn this certification.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barb Clawson".

bclawson@iastate.edu

Iowa State University



Iowa State University
Department of Horticulture
141 Horticulture Hall
Ames, IA 50011

6/7/2024

My name is Adam Thoms, and I am an Associate Professor of Commercial Turfgrass. As part of Iowa State's ongoing commitment to academic excellence and professional development, I am writing to propose the recognition and incentivization of individuals holding the Sports Field Management Association (SFMA) Turfgrass Science Certification.

The SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification is a significant achievement that reflects a deep understanding and proficiency in turfgrass science. Recognizing the importance of this certification, I propose the implementation of a structured program guarantees an interview and offers higher compensation to individuals who possess the SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification when applying for positions within our academic institution.

Here are the key components of this proposal:

Guaranteed Interview: Individuals with the certification will be guaranteed an interview for turfgrass management at Iowa State University. This recognition underscores our commitment to attracting highly qualified professionals who bring valuable expertise in movement assessment and rehabilitation.

Higher Compensation: Because of the expertise and commitment demonstrated by the certified individuals, we propose offering a higher base salary or additional compensation benefits compared to non-certified candidates. This serves as a tangible expression of our commitment to academic excellence and professional development.

I am excited to see where the SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification will lead these people. With this certification, so many doors can and will be opened. The future of turfgrass science will be elevated through those who choose to earn this certification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Adam W. Thoms".

Adam Thoms, Ph.D.
Iowa State University



Limonta Sport
Via Crema 60
24055 Cologno AI Serio (BG)
Italy

February 26, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I trust this message finds you well. As an Area Sales Manager for Limonta Sport in Italy, I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Sports Field Management Association Turfgrass Science Certification (SFMA). In Limonta Sport Italy we are an international company that works with turf grass all over. Recognizing the value that certified professionals bring to the turfgrass science industry, I am excited to announce opportunities for SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification holders within our company.

I understand the critical role that expertise in turfgrass science plays in ensuring the success of sports field projects. I am pleased to extend a guarantee of an interview to individuals who have obtained the SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification when applying for positions within our company. Our company is committed to honoring the advanced knowledge and skills demonstrated by SFMA Turfgrass Science Certified individuals by offering a starting salary that reflects their dedication to professional development.

Limonta Sport is committed to hiring highly qualified workers. The SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification helps create that candidate. I encourage individuals within our organization and the broader turf community to pursue the SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification to elevate their skills and contribute to the success of our recreation program. Thank you for considering endorsing this initiative.

Sincerely,


LIMONTA SPORT SPA
Via Crema, 60
24055 COLOGNO AI SERIO (BG)

Karim Ajam
Area Sales Manager
Karim.ajam@limontasport.com



Mixto Hybrid Grass Technology
20090 Cusago (MI)
Italy

February 26, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Dott. Camillo De Beni, and I work at Mixto Hybrid Grass Technology, serving as an agronomist. Mixto Hybrid Grass Technology is an international company that specializes in turf grass fields, focusing on natural grass systems using hybrid technology. Mixto is a company that takes great pride in using turf grass science to create high quality sports fields. Beginning in 1998, the company is leading in synthetic turf production and now in hybrid turf solutions. I am writing this letter in support of the Sports Field Management Association (SFMA) Turfgrass Science Certification. I learned about this credential at the 2024 SFMA Conference, and I couldn't be more excited about it and what it will do to increase the caliber of employees Mixto has access to.

Mixto is committed to hiring not only highly qualified individuals, but those that have a passion for turf grass science. Hence, I am pleased to extend a guarantee of an interview to individuals who have obtained the SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification. Furthermore, we are committed to recognizing the advanced knowledge and skills demonstrated by SFMA Turfgrass Science certified employees by offering a higher hourly pay that reflects their dedication to professional development and industry education. Individuals who have invested in obtaining this prestigious credential bring a unique level of expertise that aligns seamlessly with our commitment to delivering high-quality solutions to our clients.

It's essential for our employees to have as much knowledge as possible when it comes to not only the basics, but the advanced science of turfgrass. I highly encourage both students and those looking to further their knowledge to achieve this certification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Camillo De Beni".

Dott. Camillo De Beni
Agronomist

debeni@mixtosystem.it



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

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06/12/2024

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Casey Carrick, and I am the Assistant Athletics Director for Facilities and Turf Management at the University of North Carolina. I am writing to you in support of the Sports Field Management Association (SFMA) Turfgrass Science Certification as it relates to the continued success of our institution.

In my role, I assist with day-to-day operations of the athletic facilities, capital projects, renovations, or improvements to UNC facilities. Additionally, I oversee maintenance and renovation projects of 30 acres of athletic turf across the Tar Heel facilities. To be able to efficiently perform these tasks, I need highly qualified workers to work alongside me.

For anyone interested in pursuing a career in parks and recreations, sports management, environmental science, the SFMA Certification offers an opportunity to explore and understand the field better. Additionally, this certification proves mastery of turfgrass science basics and management principles.

Individuals that are equipped with this certification should be guaranteed an interview when applying for positions within our department, and considered for an increased starting pay. Earning the SFMA Certification showcases a proactive approach to skill development and professional readiness, which is valuable across our industry.

I want to hire individuals who have earned the SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification because of the knowledge and skills they bring to the table. Across the board, this certification will increase the talent shown through the workforce pipeline.

Sincerely,


Casey Carrick

Assistant Athletics Director for Facilities and Turf Management