



Benefits of Certification

By STMA Editorial Staff

Recognizing the importance of fostering and improving professionalism within the sports turf industry, the Sports Turf Managers Association developed the Certified Sports Field Manager certification program.

The purpose of the program is to:

- Increase professionalism in the sports turf industry;
- Promote better and safer sports turf areas;
- Establish credentials that signify a specific level of expertise;
- Increase career opportunities and promote the sports turf manager and the profession;
- Provide recognition for attaining a level of expertise and performance as professionals in the industry;
- stimulate and motivate improved performance and increased professionalism; and
- Increase opportunities for education and training.

Certification validates to your employer, to your peers and to the industry at-large that you have gone above and beyond the requirements of job performance and have demonstrated a superior level of competence. With this recognition can come increased compensation. During employment searches, those with the CSFM designation have a competitive edge over those who are not certified.

Fifty-eight STMA members have achieved certified status. They have demonstrated their personal level of professionalism and their ability to apply those professional standards in their own sports field management program.

In order to qualify to test for certification status, the individual must have a minimum of 40 points earned through a combination of education and experience. The CSFM exam covers agronomics, administration, pest management, and sports specific issues. Once certification is achieved, continuing education and industry service is required.

Just as great sports accomplishments raise the bar for all competitors, excellence in field care raises the level of expectations for all sports turf managers. The results are better fields and safer fields at all levels of sports competition. If you are not already a Certified Sports Field Manager, consider taking the steps to become certified. Contact STMA Headquarters, ph. 800-323-3875, to receive the information you need to start the process.