

QUALIFICATIONS

Level 2 GMA Technical Certificate Turf Surface Maintenance

Course description

The estimated time for study is 180 hours, lasting 11-months (maximum) from the date of enrolment. If you wish to focus on a specific part of this course we have 5 separate Level 2 Awards - ideal for those who have attended an GMA training course and who wish to learn and understand more on a particular subject.

Why

This qualification is ideal for an experienced grounds person someone wishing to gain an initial formal qualification in turf maintenance, but who do not wish to attend a traditional college. No practical work involved with this qualification.

Requirements

There are no formal entry requirements for this course, although you should have a keen interest in turf maintenance. Candidates should ideally have a minimum of one years experience to gain the most from the course.

Study

Each course will be through distance / home study learning, with tutor support by email. A detailed syllabus and course study plan is provided (no text books are provided) along with specific web links which signpost relevant material.

Assessment

The qualification is assessed by sitting two 1½ hour written examination papers.

Benefits

Gain in-depth technical knowledge

Optimise maintenance tasks to conditions

Reduce waste, saving money

Modules

Some of the subjects

- **M 1** / Soils
- **M 2** / Fertilisers and nutrients
- **M 3** / Plant classification
- **M 4** / Grasses and seeds
- **M 5** / Weeds, pests, diseases
- **M 6** / Maintenance activities
- **M 7** / Maintaining turfgrass
- **M 8** / Health and safety

Contact an advisor

call: 01908 312 511

email: learning@thegma.org.uk

QUALIFICATIONS

Level 3 GMA Supervisory Management

Course description

The five modules – team motivation, coaching skills, idea generation, meeting management and team building – can be studied individually for the GMA Level 3 Certificate in Supervisory Management, or as a whole for the full qualification. Content provides a detailed insight into the skills needed to lead, build and manage a team.

Why

This learning route will help to support and develop managers who have been promoted into management positions without any formal training or experience in issues that are 'non turf-related'. Also ideal for those wishing to progress their career.

Requirements

This is the GMA's key management qualification – ideal for people wishing to demonstrate their expertise within a sports turf related team. Candidates will ideally have at least 3 years experience. No practical work is involved.

Study

Extending across nine months, learn at a pace that suits the individual and is based on distance/home study learning, with tutor support by email. Totalling around 150 hours of learning – enrol on one or more modules to suit your needs.

Assessment

Gain a certificate of Module Achievement, in addition to the certificate of Module Completion (which does not require an assessment element), by passing the end of module online multiple choice assessment. Learners who study and complete all 5 modules will achieve a qualification in 'GMA Level 3 Certificate in Supervisory Management'.

Benefits

A online self study course -
learn in your own time

Learn to lead, build and
manage a successful team

Improve management performance
(personal)

Awards

- **M 1 / Team Motivation**
Theories of motivation and impact within a team. 30 hours
- **M 2 / Coaching Skills**
Providing appropriate guidance and coaching. 35 hours
- **M 3 / Encouraging New Ideas**
Identifying, developing and implementing ideas. 25 hours
- **M 4 / Meeting Management**
Communicating information effectively. 20 hours
- **M 5 / Team Building**
How to work with, and create an effective team. 40 Hours

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QUALIFICATIONS

Level 3 GMA Technical Diploma Turf Surface Maintenance

Course description

The estimated study time is 180 hours, lasting a maximum of 11-months from the date of enrolment. This course is ideal for someone with several years' experience wishing to gain a formal qualification.

Why

This is the natural progression route from the GMA Level 2 qualification, and is also suitable for people with other horticulture based qualifications who wish to develop their understanding of technical aspects of turf management.

Requirements

Candidates should preferably have a minimum of two years' experience. It would also be beneficial, but not essential, to hold a relevant Level 2 qualification; with a keen interest in sport and sports turf management.

Study

The course will be through distance / home study learning, with tutor support primarily by email. A detailed syllabus and course study plan is provided along with a course textbook and specific web links which provide further learning material.

Assessment

The qualification is assessed by each candidate sitting two 2½ hour written examination papers.

Benefits

Gain in-depth technical knowledge

Optimise resource use,
saving money

Understand key management skills

Modules

- **M 1** / Turf nutrition and soil science
- **M 2** / Plant science
- **M 3** / Turf grasses
- **M 4** / Integrated pest Management
- **M 5** / Turfgrass standards
- **M 6** / Programming and profiling
- **M 7** / Construction and drainage
- **M 8** / Non-turf surfaces
- **M 9** / Water management
- **M 10** / Health & safety management

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QUALIFICATIONS

Level 4 GMA Certificate

Sustainable Turf Management

Course description

The estimated study time for the course is 120 hours, with the course lasting a maximum of 8-months from the date of enrolment. This course is also ideal for someone with at least 3 years experience and who wish to gain a formal qualification in sustainable management, or who do not want to create a portfolio of evidence. There is no practical work involved.

Why

Ideal for anyone involved with managing turfgrass and wish to understand how they can provide a sustainable turfgrass surface. With ever increasing demands this course will suit people wishing to consider a longer term perspective.

Requirements

This course is only available to persons over the age of 19 years. Candidates will have an interest in sustainability and how this can be applied to turfgrass surfaces. Additionally, have relevant experience to gain the most from the course.

Study

The course will be through distance / home study learning, with tutor support primarily by email. A detailed syllabus and course study plan is provided along with a course textbook and specific web links which provide further learning material.

Assessment

The qualification is assessed by each candidate submitting a written report.

Benefits

Manage sports turf
surfaces sustainably

Learn effective
maintenance practices

Reduce resource use,
saving money

Modules

Some of the subjects

- **M 1** / What is sustainability?
- **M 2** / Managing for sustainability
- **M 3** / Beyond sustainability
- **M 4** / Sustainable turf management

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QUALIFICATIONS

Level 4 GMA Professional Certificate Turf Surface Management

Course description

The estimated study time for the course is 180 hours, with the course lasting a maximum of 11-months from the date of enrolment. This course is ideal for someone with at least 4 years' experience wishing to gain a higher level formal qualification in managing turfgrass surfaces, but who do not wish to attend a college course, or create a portfolio of evidence.

Why

This qualification is also the natural progression route from the GMA Level 3 qualification, yet is also suitable for people with other horticulture based qualifications who wish to develop their understanding of turf management.

Requirements

This course is only available to persons over the age of 19 and who have a minimum of 4 years' experience. You should have a keen interest in turf management and have the skills needed to study at this level.

Study

The course will be through distance / home study learning, with tutor support primarily by email. A detailed syllabus and course study plan is provided along with a course textbook and specific web links which provide further learning material.

Assessment

The qualification is assessed by each candidate sitting two 2½ hour written examination papers.

Benefits

Improve sports turf
management practices

Improve team motivation
and staff effectiveness

Improve knowledge of
design and construction

Modules

Some of the subjects

- **M 1** / Sustainable management
- **M 2** / Waste minimisation
- **M 3** / Managing a team
- **M 4** / Machinery procurement
- **M 5** / Work analysis and evaluation
- **M 6** / Design and construction

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QUALIFICATIONS

Level 5 GMA Professional Diploma in Turf Surface Management

Course description

The estimated learning time for the course is 180 hours, with the course lasting a maximum of 11-months from the date of enrolment.

Why

This course is the GMA's premier Turf Surface Management qualification – and is ideal for those wishing to demonstrate their expertise within the turf and grounds care industry. There is no practical work involved with this qualification.

Requirements

Candidates will ideally have at least six years experience in the turf and grounds care industry. You will also have achieved the GMA Level 4 Professional Certificate in Turf Surface Management (this being year 1 of the former NDT)*.

Study

The course will be through distance / home study learning, with tutor support primarily by email. A detailed syllabus and course study plan is provided along with a course textbook and specific web links which provide further learning material.

Assessment

The qualification is assessed by each candidate sitting two 2½ hour written examination papers.

**Applications will be considered on an individual basis.*

Benefits

Manage projects effectively

Improve risk management

Improve knowledge of
natural turfgrass

Modules

Some of the subjects

- **M 1** / Contract documents
- **M 2** / Risk management
- **M 3** / Health & safety management
- **M 4** / Non-turf surface construction
- **M 5** / Developments in turfgrass
- **M 6** / Greenspace management

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QUALIFICATIONS

Level 6 GMA Professional Certificate Turf Surface Consulting

Course description

The estimated study time for the course is 180 hours, with the course lasting a maximum of 11-months from the date of enrolment.

Why

This is the GMA's highest level qualification and is ideal for people who have a wealth of industry experience and who wish to engage in consultancy activities to help raise the standard of grounds care throughout the industry.

Requirements

You must hold the minimum of a Level 4 qualification with at least 7 years relevant industry experience, or a minimum of 12 years relevant industry experience alone.

Or, demonstrate that you have the skills and experience necessary.

Study

The course will be through distance / home study learning, with tutor support primarily by email. A detailed syllabus and course study plan is provided along with a course textbook and specific web links which provide further learning material.

Assessment

The qualification is assessed by each candidate submitting a written report.

Benefits

Better engage with
external consultants

Provide consultancy
services to others

Contribute to raising
industry standards

Modules

Some of the subjects

- **M 1** / Processes involved in creating a consultancy report
- **M 2** / Investigate and create a consultancy report

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