

## WHAT IS CERTIFICATION?

Certification is a national, written and hands-on testing program administered once a year by the Wisconsin Landscape Contractors Association to recognize proficiency in the landscape work force, upgrade the status of the landscape profession, and provide the public with a means of identifying certified landscape professionals.

Developed and organized by the California Landscape Contractors Association's Certification Committee, the exam was first administered in 1993. In 1994, ALCA purchased rights to the exam and offered it to state associations for their members. WLCA purchased the rights to administer the test and offered it for the first time in October of 1996.

## NEW IN 2008

Where there were two certifications, now there are four: Softscape Installation, Hardscape Installation, Turf Maintenance and Ornamental Maintenance. Applicants may only receive certification in one of the aforementioned designations during a test cycle.

Successful completion of either the Softscape or Hardscape test demonstrates that an individual has the skills and ability to take a landscape blueprint and implement the design in the field:

- Softscape Installation demonstrates knowledge by successfully installing plant material.
- Hardscape Installation demonstrates competence by installing hardscapes.

Successful completion of the Maintenance testing shows that a person has the skills and ability to maintain Turf or Ornamental plants in a proficient and professional manner.

## WHAT THE PROGRAM IS NOT

Certification is not a substitute for licensure. The goals, subject matter and procedures of the Certification test are different from licensing exams conducted by the State of Wisconsin and other governmental agencies.

## BENEFITS OF CERTIFICATION

- Promotes professionalism for individuals and the industry.
- Provides national recognition
- Validates landscape skills
- Creates opportunities for career advancements in the industry

## RECOGNITION

- Persons who pass all of the requirements will achieve the *Certified Landscape Technician* designation.
- Upon passing the certification testing the candidate receives a certificate, identification card and a lapel pin from the Professional Landcare Network (PLANET)
- Employers are encouraged to advertise that they have Certified Employees on their staff.

## HOW TO BECOME A CLT

To become a Certified Landscape Technician, a candidate must pass all the problems within the written Common Core exam plus all the problems within a given specialty: Softscape or Hardscape Installation or Turf or Ornamental Maintenance. Each exam is a combination of written and hands-on problems based on national industry standards plus safety –related issues.

## REQUIRED PROBLEMS

All problems are offered in English and Spanish

### Softscape Installation

Common Core- written  
Plan reading – written  
Hort. Principles – written  
Irrigation Components – written  
Plant ID  
Sod Installation  
Basic Program Controller  
Lateral Repair & head adjustment  
Tree Planting & staking  
Plant layout  
Rototiller Operation

### Hardscape Installation

Common Core – written  
Plan Reading – written  
Hardscape Principles & calculations – written  
Chainsaw  
Grading & Drainage  
Instrument  
Paver Installation  
Skid-steer Operations

### Turf Maintenance

Common Core – written  
Turf Principles - written  
Turfgrass Calculations –written  
Irrigation Components & principles – written  
Basic Program Controller  
Lateral Repair & Head adjustment  
21" mower  
Intermediate Walk-behind Mower  
Riding Mower  
Edger & Trimmer  
Power Blower  
Aerator  
Turf Fertilizer

### Ornamental Maintenance

Common Core – written  
Hort. Principles – written  
Calculations- written  
Irrigation Components – written  
Plant ID  
Basic Program Controller  
Lateral Repair & head adjustment  
Tree Planting & staking  
Chainsaw  
Pruning  
Power Blower

## TEST DATE

**Saturday, September 13, 2008**

**MATC MEQUON CAMPUS  
5555 N. Highland Rd.**

**Application deadline:  
August 29, 2008**

## CANCELLATION POLICY

- All cancellations must be in written and received in the WLCA office before or on August 15, 2008 by 5:00 PM. Telephone calls will not be accepted.
- Upon receipt of written cancellation notification before or on August 15, 2008 the Certification Program will issue a refund check in the full amount. This will be done within two weeks of receipt of the cancellation letter.
- Cancellations received between August 16 and September 1, 2008, will have a \$100 administration fee deducted.
- If a candidate does not take the examination for which they were scheduled, and has not canceled in writing by September 1, 2008, they will be categorized as a "no show".
- If a candidate does not show, all fees are forfeited to the Certification Program to cover administration costs.
- A medical doctor's written statement or family emergencies will be considered, but are not guaranteed excuses.

## PREPARING FOR THE TEST

To allow sufficient time for study, apply for the exam well in advance of the test date. Each candidate is supplied with a copy of the exam test booklet that contains the testing information. We highly recommend that candidates purchase the CLT Study Guides, as well as attend the CLT Training Session in August.

## ELIGIBILITY FOR TESTING

Anyone is eligible to take the exam, but it is recommended that applicants have one or more of the following.

- 4,000 hours of work in the landscape industry
- 2,000 hours of work in the landscape industry, plus the successful completion of a two year or four year curriculum in the landscape field:
- 1,000 hours of work in the landscape industry, plus the successful completion of a two- year or four-year curriculum in the landscape field, plus the completion of an approved internship program.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Wisconsin Landscape Contractors  
Association  
21620 Belgren Rd.  
Waukesha, WI 53186  
1-262-782-9522  
1-800-933-9522  
Fax 262-786-2424**

# GET CERTIFIED

## Be Outstanding in your field

## Certified Landscape Technician Test



**Softscape Installation  
Hardscape Installation  
Turf Maintenance  
Ornamental Maintenance**

## APPLICATION FOR TESTING

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Work Address

Company \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Test materials sent to  work  home

Test Registration select One category

Softscape Installation - \$275  
 Hardscape Installation - \$275  
 Ornamental Maintenance - \$275  
 Turf Maintenance - \$275

I will take the test in:

English  Spanish

I will need the following special accommodations:  
\_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt Size

med  large  XL  XXL

### Study Guides

Installation English - \$65  
 Installation Spanish - \$65  
 Maintenance English - \$65  
 Maintenance Spanish - \$65

## Verification of Experience

I verify that the applicant has experience in the skill areas to be tested as described elsewhere in this brochure.

Applicant has been with this company for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment Information

Payment must be received with registration

### Total amount due

Test Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Study guide \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Amount due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method

Check (made payable to WLCA)

Visa  MasterCard

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Send registration to:

WLCA  
21620 Belgren Rd.  
Waukesha, WI 53186

**Deadline August 29, 2008**