

9/1/2023

I am writing this letter to whom it may concern regarding my interest in the PACE scholarship program. Having yet to decide exactly what career I wanted to pursue as a young adult I graduated high school and was lucky enough to start working at Widgi Creek Golf Club for the first full time job post basic education I had. Working under Paul Rozek whom I would now call a mentor and role model to me for what is to be expected from a professional and well known person in their field. Over the years I've spent at the golf club I have learned what it means to be active, attentive, and aware in the work environment. Additionally I'm thankful that I had the opportunity to become comfortable with helping to organize and manage day to day tasks.

Having started from the bottom of greenskeepers doing more basic tasks and progressing up the ladder. I spent several years learning how to operate a variety of equipment, as well as gradually becoming more involved with everything from tee set-up, irrigation, aerification, top dressing, and more. I was introduced to the opportunities and wide array of tasks that the golf and turf industry require. Finding a passion in the work and career, even though I have tried other jobs I return to golf having never found quite the same passion. The variety of things needed to maintain and work in the industry has been a major factor for why I enjoy it so much.

Now with 8 years in the industry through varying levels of roles and responsibilities I would like to pursue the next step, which I believe to be furthering my experiences and knowledge more in depth with the practices and theories behind the practices in use to maintain turf. Whether that's the application of fungicides, pesticides, fertilizers, or wetting agents, and all of the different ways they are applied or actions in which they are applied. With the associated cost of education being generally prohibitive and time sparse, I believe that this is exactly the kind of opportunity which I need to progress myself in the field. It has the information I need to fully clarify and understand things which I have discussed with others and am not always confident enough to explain clearly. Finally, my thanks for the consideration of me for this opportunity to grow within my career and life.

-Thank you, Luke Huntington