

My name is Neric Smith and I am the Instructor for the Landscape and Turfgrass Technology program at Indian Hills Community College on the Main Campus in Ottumwa. I am writing you in regard to an opportunity for students in your schools to be eligible for scholarships that I have available directly through my program just by contacting me within the next few weeks.

The Landscape and Turfgrass Technology program has existed in its current form since 2010 and has had students working at many places in just the short period of time it has existed. **Some** of those include:

Sports Fields:

- Minnesota Vikings Sports Facilities
- Iowa Cubs(Principal Park)
- MLB Spring Training Facilities in Arizona

Golf Courses:

- National-
 - Monterey Peninsula Club- California
 - Pinehurst Golf Resort- North Carolina

- Iowa-
 - Wakonda Club
 - Spirit Hollow
 - Honey Creek Golf Resort
 - Ottumwa Country Club
 - Oskaloosa Golf Course
 - Edmundson & Harvest Point Golf Courses
 - Diamond Trail Golf Course

Landscape & Lawn Care:

- JC Lawncare, Landscape, and Snow Removal- Fairfield
- SW Huffman Landscaping Inc. – Ottumwa
- Blue Ribbon Lawn and Landscape- Fairfield
- Hermanns Lawncare- Ottumwa
- Creative Edge Landscaping- Knoxville

Parks and Grounds:

- Geode State Park- Burlington
- Honey Creek Resort Grounds
- Indian Hills CC Grounds

Other:

- Fruit and Vegetable Farms- Fairfield

This program is ideal for the student that enjoys working outside. Another benefit is that I employ approximately 50% of students enrolled in the Landscape and Turfgrass Tech program at some point in their time here. This is working for either me taking care of our sports fields, golf hole, greenhouses, garden facility, or working for the Grounds Department here at the college. Many other students work off campus at other related employers since the program in most terms only consumes 2 to 4 days per week.

The Horticulture Industry has many opportunities both locally or beyond. One example is last week at the Iowa Turfgrass Conference I had well over 20 employers ask me when I was going to send them interns or graduates. The problem is our current students are all positioned for employment. Lastly, our program provides a very seamless transfer to Iowa State University. Please pass this information along to any students that may have an interest!

They can contact me directly on my cell phone at [515-368-1544](tel:515-368-1544) or nsmith@indianhills.edu

Attached is a link for our program website!

<http://www.indianhills.edu/courses/tech/landscapetech.html>

Thank you for your time!

Neric Smith

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