CLASS TITLE: GROUNDS ATHLETIC FIELD SPECIALIST

BASIC FUNCTION

Under direction of the Grounds Supervisor, perform semi-skilled to skilled grounds keeping work to maintain athletic fields and associated areas in a pristine fashion befitting Class “A” Collegiate standards.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The Grounds Athletic Field Specialist will be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the college athletic fields and associated areas. This classification will be responsible for lawn maintenance, basic irrigation repair, associated landscape and hardscape upkeep, in addition to planning, establishing, and implementation of an effective athletic field maintenance program. This classification may be called upon to perform senior-level grounds maintenance duties, throughout the campus.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES

Mowing, edging, verdicutting, aerifying, sod cutting and line trimming of athletic sports fields.  

Maintenance of skinned playing surfaces, including; a brick dust running track and baseball/ softball skins; specify brick dust mixes, topsoil, dressings, aggregates, sand, decomposed granite and related natural amendments.  

Line and/or mark athletic fields for various sporting events and related campus and community activities.  

Maintenance of related hardscape areas associated with athletic areas, including parking lots, walkways, stadium and bleacher seating areas, fencing, signage and other athletic apparatus.  

Develop and implement an effective athletic fields maintenance program.  

Repair and/or design as needed, basic irrigation problems, including; redesign and correction implementation of faulty irrigation systems, head and valve repair, programming and maintenance of irrigation clocks; assist irrigation technician to rectify any persistent irrigation problems or emergency situations campus-wide.  

Fertilize and apply pesticides on an as needed basis; diagnosis endemic problems and, in conjunction with the Grounds Supervisor, take corrective cultural and/or chemical measures.  

Operate grounds maintenance equipment, including tractors, mowers, trenchers, augers, sod cutters, edgers, linetrimmers, paint spray rigs, chemical spray rigs, dump truck, high lift, chainsaws, verdicutter, and other related equipment on an as needed basis.  

Established November 2000
GROUND AthLETIC FIELD SPECIALIST (continued)

Prepare and maintain records and reports; prepare job and materials estimates, order and schedule materials to be delivered.

Pick up trash and litter in assigned areas. *E*

Perform other related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

KNOWLEDGE OF:

Annual cultural practices related to the care and maintenance of athletic turf fields for collegiate level play
Different turf, heavy wear culture, proper drainage, invigoration of turf and dormancy practices
Grounds maintenance equipment and preventative maintenance
Proper occupational safety procedures
Computer software used for reports generation

ABILITY TO:

Produce a superior quality of athletic turf under heavy wear and high demand usage
Assess field conditions, diagnose basic cultural and pathogenic problems and determine the proper course of corrective action
Read and work from constructional (blue prints) or shop drawings
Organize a constructive approach to grounds maintenance
Understand and follow written or oral directions
Work in a cooperative team fashion, as well as independently with little direct supervision
Use the computer and related software
Prioritize work assignments effectively
Perform maintenance and minor repair to landscape associated with athletic areas

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Any combination equivalent to four years of grounds maintenance and turf experience, preferably in football, soccer, baseball and/or golf.

LICENSE AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

A valid California driver’s license.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Outdoor work environment, subject to dirt, mud, dust, pollen and any number of other weather extremes
GROUND'S ATHLETIC FIELD SPECIALIST (continued)

PHYSICAL ABILITIES

Ability to lift up to 50 pounds, agility with hand tools and specialized equipment, bending, climbing, reaching, stretching, digging, kneeling and walking for extended periods of time.