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Amherst Country Club

When I think back on high school and retail jobs I have worked at, I never had the passion that I do for working on a golf course. I struggled with staying focused while sitting in the same spot all day or doing the same task everyday. In the golf industry I enjoy constantly being on the move and doing different tasks everyday. I would much rather wake up every morning at 3am to a view of the golf course rather than walk into work at a job like Walmart. I'm passionate about my work at the golf course and have fun doing what I do. I enjoy the connections I make and people I meet while working. At Walmart I would feel stuck there for 8 hours and repeat the same stuff everyday all day and did not feel very accomplished. When I finish my day at the golf course I feel like I really did something and I feel confident and fulfilled.

I feel that I can learn a lot more from the opportunity of attending winter school than just the hands-on experience I have working on the course. I also feel fortunate to learn beyond what I may learn from my current course and peers. With this new information I could also teach and share what I learn as they have done with me at times. I can also learn what other people from around the country experience at their course because not everyone in this winter school is from the same area. I am very interested to learn about how they handle different weather patterns and the effects on different soils, turfs and diseases that I would not experience in my area. This would be beneficial to learn in case I have an opportunity to work in a new area outside of New Hampshire.

I am attending Winter School in hopes to learn all about the different types of grasses, soils, and diseases that I might work with in the future. With that being said I think it would also help me to manage and maintain all the different kinds of issues I may face on the golf course. I would also like to learn what is the best way to maintain and take best possible care of all different sorts of soils and grass. I am also very interested in learning about insects and their effects on plants both beneficial and harmful. It also seems interesting to learn about different types of trees and their possible location impact on the course, whether it's positive or negative. These topics all feel necessary for me to learn because to be successful in my career I should have knowledge on all these subjects if I want what's best for the course.

There are several personal achievements that I take pride in relating to my 4 years of working on a golf course. Over those 4 years I have worked on two different golf courses. I started off raking bunkers at Souhegan Woods as the lowest ranked staff member. I've worked my way up to assistant in training at Amherst Country Club. Over

those years I'm proud of everything I've learned and accomplished from operating a large variety of machines, to course setup, to learning all about spraying and the use of a spray rig. I feel that I am now ready to make the jump to assistant which is another reason I am taking this winter school course, so I can continue to learn and improve with each step.

My grandfather introduced me to the industry when I was first looking for a new career path. He has been a well respected superintendent in New Hampshire for decades. I have looked to him with my work and it has motivated me to do well by working hard both in the class and on the course. As a mentor he referred me to this scholarship opportunity. I believe that I am a deserving candidate for this scholarship because I am eager to learn all about turf grass and apply it to my time at Amherst Country Club as well as future courses. I also am passionate about my work and know this would be valuable to taking me to the next level. After 4 years of working on golf courses and moving into year 5 I feel I am ready to educate myself and learn skills through school. I think this course is a necessity to be able to do that and would guide my future. I believe my years of experience at a young age shows my dedication to set me apart and therefore deserving of this scholarship.