



## **The California Urban Forests Council's Urban Forester Certification Program**

The California Urban Forests Council's Urban Forester Certification Program enhances the knowledge, education and status of urban forestry professionals. The program provides government, business and community organizations with the reliable assurance that CaUFC Certified Urban Foresters are fully qualified, thoroughly prepared and rigorously tested to deal with the challenges of urban forestry in California.

CaUFC is the nation's oldest Urban Forests Council. With 40 years of experience in the development, promotion and preservation of urban forests, CaUFC is singularly qualified to provide the skill and training which are the foundation of stable, sustainable and successful urban forests.

CaUFC Certified Urban Foresters are trained and tested in every vital aspect of urban forest management. Graduates of the program are fully certified to address tree selection, planting, maintenance, protection and preservation as well as urban landscape principles, air quality, wildfires, storm water run-off and wildlife and aquatic habitats. CaUFC certification insures mastery of these environmentally essential elements principles in the specific context of California's uniquely diverse and demanding urban habitats.

### **The Program**

The CaUFC Urban Forester Certification Program provides professionals with comprehensive knowledge and skills essential to the development, protection and preservation of urban forests:

- Tree population & other types of flora and their interaction in the urban environment
- Zoning and building codes and the processes of changing them
- Architecture & engineering principles as well as development concepts with special emphasis on landscape architecture
- The impact of urban forestry on wildfire and water issues
- Federal, state and local environmental rules, regulations and laws
- The role and utility of allied professionals
- Respect for private property and the public process and the critical importance of effective communication skills
- A holistic approach which incorporates people and natural systems into a cohesive, interrelated long-term decision-making process.

## Entry Qualifications

CaUFC candidates are required to meet both professional and educational prerequisites. The program is designed and administered for professionals in the field; those with entry-level qualifications or mid-level experience are not eligible for CaUFC certification.

Candidates for the program must qualify for admission on the basis of one of the following criteria:

### Education & Experience

1. Thirteen years of verifiable experience in Urban Forestry (may include summer employment and/or internships)
2. An accredited Associate Degree in Urban Forestry or related fields\* and 9 years of verifiable Urban Forestry experience
3. A Bachelors Degree in Urban Forestry or related fields and 5 years of verifiable Urban Forestry experience
4. An Advanced Degree in Urban Forestry or related fields and 3 years of verifiable experience in Urban Forestry

At least 2 years of field experience must be at the supervisory or program management level.

\*Related fields: Forestry, Horticulture, Arboriculture, Natural Resource Management, Landscape Architecture, Environmental Sciences, Environmental Studies, Urban Planning, Land Use Planning or other fields of study which may be accepted on a case-by-case basis.

### Professional Licensure / Certification

Applicants for the CaUFC Urban Forestry Certification program must currently hold professional licenses or certifications as one or more of:

- CA Registered Professional Forester
- CA Licensed Landscape Contractor
- CA Licensed Landscape Architect
- CA Licensed Architect
- ISA Certified Arborist
- ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist
- CANGC Advanced Certified Nursery Professional
- AICP Certified Planner

**To apply for the California Certified Urban Forester Program**

**To learn more about enrollment contact:**

[www.caufc.org/certification\\_ba.html](http://www.caufc.org/certification_ba.html) or

Test Manager Dave Rogers, (951) 990-6963 or [drogers@concentric.net](mailto:drogers@concentric.net)