



Associate Professional Mentoring Guide

3 paths to success and Membership

1. Fast Track: 3 years
2. Advance Path: 4.5 Years
3. Standard Path: 6 Years

Essential Requirements

1. Playing Ability
2. Academics
3. Employment
4. Financial Plan
5. Short- and long-term professional goals

Fast Track

Complete entire PGA PGM 3.0 in 3 years or less

1. Register with the PGA of American in the Associate Program
 - a. Obtain qualified employment
 - b. Complete background check
 - c. Pass Q-Level course
 - i. Cost: \$400
2. Successfully complete PAT within first year
 - a. Cost: \$200-\$400
3. Level 1 completed in 1 year
 - a. Obtain Access to level 1 course materials
 - i. Cost: \$560
 - b. Complete all level 1 work experience
 - c. Attend Level 1 check point within 4-6 months of start of level 1
 - d. Begin to explore specialty tracks for levels 2 & 3: Golf Operations, Teaching & Coaching and Executive Management
 - i. Cost: \$2,000
 - e. Complete all level 1 tests
 - i. Cost: \$200
 - f. Once level 1 tests are complete, graduate to level 2
 - i. Cost: \$62-124
 - g. Select one of the specialty tracks for levels 2 & 3
 - i. Golf Operations
 - ii. Teaching & Coaching or
 - iii. Executive Management
4. Level 2 completed by the end of year 2
 - a. Obtain access to level 2 course materials

- i. Cost: \$350
- b. Complete all level 2 work experience
- c. Attend Level 2 check point within 4-6 months of start of level 2
 - i. Cost: \$2,000
- d. Complete all level 2 tests
 - i. Cost: TBA \$62-124 estimated
- e. Once level 2 tests are complete, graduate to level 3
- 5. Level 3 completed by the end of year 3
 - a. Obtain access to level 3 course materials
 - i. Cost: \$350
 - b. Complete all level 3 work experience
 - c. Attend Level 3 check point within 4-6 months of start of level 3
 - i. Cost: \$2,000
 - d. Complete all level 3 tests
 - i. Cost: TBA \$62-124 estimated
 - e. Once level 3 tests are complete, apply for PGA Membership
- 6. Total Costs:
 - Registration, Q-Level, & background: \$292
 - PAT: \$200 per attempt
 - All Levels access Fees: \$1,260
 - All Levels Check Points: \$6000
 - All Levels Tests: \$186-\$372
 - **Total Cost: \$7,938 - \$8,124**
 - a. **Average costs per year \$2,646-\$2,708**

Advance Path

Complete entire PGA PGM 3.0 in 4.5 years or less

1. Register with the PGA of American in the Associate Program
 - a. Obtain qualified employment
 - b. Complete background check
 - c. Pass Q-Level course
 - i. Cost: \$400
2. Successfully complete PAT within first year
 - a. Cost: \$200-\$400
3. Level 1 completed in 18 months
 - a. Obtain Access to level 1 course materials
 - i. Cost: \$560
 - b. Complete all level 1 work experience
 - c. Attend Level 1 check point within 9-12 months of start of level 1
 - i. Cost: \$2,000
 - d. Complete all level 1 tests
 - i. Cost: \$200
 - e. Once level 1 tests are complete, graduate to level 2
 - i. Cost: \$62-124
 - f. Select one of the specialty tracks for levels 2 & 3

- i. Golf Operations
 - ii. Teaching & Coaching or
 - iii. Executive Management
- 4. Level 2 completed by the end of year 3
 - a. Obtain access to level 2 course materials
 - i. Cost: \$350
 - b. Complete all level 2 work experience
 - c. Attend Level 2 check point within 9-12 months of start of level 2
 - i. Cost: \$2,000
 - d. Complete all level 2 tests
 - i. Cost: TBA \$62-124 estimated
 - e. Once level 2 tests are complete, graduate to level 3
- 5. Level 3 completed by the end of year 4.5
 - a. Obtain access to level 3 course materials
 - i. Cost: \$350
 - b. Complete all level 3 work experience
 - c. Attend Level 3 check point within 9-12 months of start of level 3
 - i. Cost: \$2,000
 - d. Complete all level 3 tests
 - i. Cost: TBA \$62-124 estimated
 - e. Once level 3 tests are complete, apply for PGA Membership
- 6. Total Costs:
 - Registration, Q-Level, & background: \$292
 - PAT: \$200 per attempt
 - All Levels access Fees: \$1,260
 - All Levels Check Points: \$6000
 - All Levels Tests: \$186-\$372
 - **Total Cost: \$7,938 - \$8,124**
 - a. **Average costs per year \$1,754 - \$1,805**

Standard Path

Complete entire PGA PGM 3.0 in 6 years or less

1. Register with the PGA of American in the Associate Program
 - a. Obtain qualified employment
 - b. Complete background check
 - c. Pass Q-Level course
 - i. Cost: \$400
2. Successfully complete PAT within first year
 - a. Cost: \$200-\$400
3. Level 1 completed in 2 year2
 - a. Obtain Access to level 1 course materials
 - i. Cost: \$560
 - b. Complete all level 1 work experience
 - c. Attend Level 1 check point within 14-18 months of start of level 1
 - i. Cost: \$2,000

- d. Complete all level 1 tests
 - i. Cost: \$200
- e. Once level 1 tests are complete, graduate to level 2
 - i. Cost: \$62-124
- f. Select one of the specialty tracks for levels 2 & 3
 - i. Golf Operations
 - ii. Teaching & Coaching or
 - iii. Executive Management
4. Level 2 completed by the end of year 4
 - a. Obtain access to level 2 course materials
 - i. Cost: \$350
 - b. Complete all level 2 work experience
 - c. Attend Level 2 check point within 14-18 months of start of level 2
 - i. Cost: \$2,000
 - d. Complete all level 2 tests
 - i. Cost: TBA \$62-124 estimated
 - e. Once level 2 tests are complete, graduate to level 3
5. Level 3 completed by the end of year 6
 - a. Obtain access to level 3 course materials
 - i. Cost: \$350
 - b. Complete all level 3 work experience
 - c. Attend Level 3 check point within 14-18 months of start of level 3
 - i. Cost: \$2,000
 - d. Complete all level 3 tests
 - i. Cost: TBA \$62-124 estimated
 - e. Once level 3 tests are complete, apply for PGA Membership
6. Total Costs:
 - Registration, Q-Level, & background: \$292
 - PAT: \$200 per attempt
 - All Levels access Fees: \$1,260
 - All Levels Check Points: \$6000
 - All Levels Tests: \$186-\$372
 - **Total Cost: \$7,938 - \$8,124**
 - a. **Average costs per year \$1,323 - \$1,354**

Create 3 way signed education agreement including the Associate, Host Professional and also the Membership Chair.

1. Agreement to include:
 - Plan in place to PGA Membership specific timeline
 - Step by step process for each level being completed
 - Identify specific benchmarks on a time-line to update supervising professional and membership committee liaison.
2. Chapter based Membership committee to conduct interviews of all existing associates:
 - Suspended associates
 - Why suspended
 - Non-suspended associates (By level)
 - Associates with PGA Completed PAT (by level)
3. Interview current associates

- Where are they at?
 - What is their plan?
4. How to pay and finance?
- Historically employers have budgeted educational funds to help assist with associate's education expense.
 - Other best practices include creating Associates raffle and or tournament to raise scholarship dollars to help assist with the costs.
5. Who will help me along the way?
- a. Supervising Professional
 - b. Membership committee team
 - c. PGA National Education Staff

Iowa PGA Membership Mentoring Team:

Level 1 - Ty Stewart - TyStewart@hyperionfc.com (515) 292-9188

Level 2 - Andrew Boyle - andy@theharvesterclub.com (319) 457-3434

Level 3 - Tyler Christians - tdchristians@gmail.com (515) 783-8277