



## **Commitment to Career Development in the Landscape Industry**

The National Association of Landscape Professionals, through its Industry Growth Initiative, is working to grow the industry and enhance career opportunities for more than 150,000 people over the next five years, providing professionals with fulfilling jobs which enhance our nation's green spaces. The industry looks to fill 1.5 million positions in the next five years.

NALP is joining other national organizations and corporations in making a [Pledge to America's Workers](#) under the direction of the President's [executive order](#) which creates the new National Council for the American Worker, an entity tasked with championing, "effective, results-driven education and training so that American students and workers can obtain the skills they need to succeed in the jobs of today and of the future."

### **NALP's Workforce Development Programs**

#### Apprenticeship Program

NALP will launch a national Apprenticeship Program, as part of the Department of Labor's National Apprenticeship System under its Office of Apprenticeship. The program will provide formalized training and hands-on-experience for landscape management technicians.

#### Certification

Currently 8,000 industry professionals have passed rigorous testing to obtain a Landscape Industry Certified credential and they complete continuing education to maintain their certification.

#### Accredited Degree Program

Twenty-eight college and university programs are part of NALP's Accredited Degree Program which is the only nationally recognized endorsement for colleges with landscape and horticulture curricula. Thousands of students, each year, are taught using curricula that best prepares them to enter the workforce.

#### National Collegiate Landscape Competition

The National Collegiate Landscape Competition is the industry's largest career event, bringing together approximately 800 college landscape and horticulture students, each spring, for three days of Olympic-style skills testing in which they demonstrate their knowledge from design, to horticulture, to maintenance, to landscape and irrigation installation. They also network with top companies and receive job and internship offers during the Career Fair.



### Landscape Career Day

Thousands of students and adults each year are exposed to the wide variety of industry careers through Landscape Career Day events which are organized by landscape and lawn care companies from across the country. Under the national program, companies connect with students and career-ready adults and offer hands-on career exploration opportunities and insider knowledge about potential career paths.

### Landscape and Horticulture Scholarships

The National Association of Landscape Professionals' Foundation provides scholarships to approximately 100 college students each year to help support their education and eventual career path in the fields of landscape and horticulture. The Foundation has awarded more than \$1.2 million in scholarship support.

### Landscape in the Classroom

NALP is working to better support teachers with ready-to-use curriculum offerings and guidance so they can help bring the industry alive to students. Offering best practices in lessons plans, teach-the-teacher instructional tutorials, and partnership support for high schools and technical colleges. The association will soon provide turnkey resources to educate tomorrow's workforce.

### Professional Education and Training

The Association provides education, technical and safety training to thousands of landscape industry professionals each year during more than a dozen education events and more than 50 hours of webinars and on-line education. And, through its partnership with the OSHA Alliance, NALP provides safety training resources to thousands of workers in the field.

In addition to creating and managing many of these programs, NALP's Industry Growth Initiative is bringing awareness of these offerings and the extensive career opportunities available in the industry through extensive outreach to tomorrow's professionals.