FNGLA Certifications: A Guide for Florida's Educators

FNGLA Certified Horticulture Professional (FCHP)

The FCHP Certification is available to professionals employed in Florida's nursery and landscape industry, as well as students studying to enter the industry. The FCHP certification is recognized across the state, allowing students to take the credential wherever they go. FCHP is a CAPE-approved industry certification for Florida's high school students.

Academic and Industry Value

- Counts as 3 credits at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC)
- Counts as 6 credits toward AS and AAS degrees at Florida's state colleges
- Equivalent to GI-BMPs, which are required to obtain a fertilizer applicator license
- Prerequisite for advanced FNGLA certifications
- Enhances employability and industry readiness

Exam Preparation Materials

FNGLA administers the online exam, and partners with educators to support instruction. Available materials for purchase include:

- *The Horticulture Professional* textbook (official reference for the FCHP exam)
- *FCHP Training Resource Guide (*provides practice test questions, discussion notes, and class activities)

Costs

FNGLA member pricing is extended to your school for textbooks and exams; however, membership is beneficial for staying connected to the association.

- FNGLA Supportive Membership: $100 per year
- FCHP Textbook: $120 plus shipping
- FCHP Instructor Training Resource Guide: $249 plus shipping
- FCHP Exam: $90 per student; retests are free.

Exam Format

The FCHP exam consists of four sections, which students may complete in any order, either together or separately. Each section is scored independently and requires a minimum passing score of 70%.

FCHP Exam Section	Time	Format
Plant Identification	30 minutes	50 plants
Safety	30 minutes	30 multiple choice questions
Horticulture Practices	60 minutes	50 multiple choice questions
Open Book	60 minutes	30 multiple choice questions

Contact Information

For questions regarding FCHP, educator support, or school testing setup, contact Merry Mott (mmott@fngla.org) or Erin Elsberry (eelsberry@fngla.org) or call the FNGLA Office (407) 295-7994.

FNGLA Landscape Technician Level Certifications

The Landscape Technician Level Certifications are available to professionals employed in Florida's landscape industry, as well as students studying to enter the industry. The certifications are recognized across the state, allowing students to take the credential wherever they go. FNGLA's Certified Landscape Maintenance Technician (FCLMT) and Landscape Technician (FCLT) are both CAPE-approved industry certifications for Florida's high school students.

Academic and Industry Value

- Counts as 3 credits at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC)
- Counts as 6 credits toward AS and AAS degrees at Florida's state colleges
- FCLT is a prerequisite for advanced FNGLA certification
- Connects students with industry professionals
- Enhances employability and industry readiness

Exam Preparation Materials

FNGLA administers the hands-on exams, and partners with educators to support instruction. Available materials for purchase include:

- FCLMT - *FNGLA Landscape Maintenance Manual*
- FCLT - *FNGLA Landscape Installation Manual*

Study guides are available for both FNGLA certifications, FCLMT and FCLT.
FNGLA Certification Staff can also provide a hands-on exam prep review.

Costs

FNGLA member pricing is extended to your school for manuals and exams; however, membership is beneficial for staying connected to the association.

- FNGLA Supportive Membership: $100 per year
- FCLMT Manual: $40
- FCLMT Exam: $250 per student; retests are free.
- FCLT Manual: $40
- FCLT Exam: $250 per student; retests are free.

Exam Format

Both FNGLA landscape certifications—FCLMT (Maintenance) and FCLT (Installation)—include hands-on field exam sections and a multiple-choice written portion. All testing is conducted in person, with industry professionals serving as certified judges. Each section is scored individually and must be passed with a minimum of 70%.

- The FCLMT exam is divided into eight sections: Plant Identification, Truck and Trailer, Turfgrass Management, Pruning, Fertilization, Integrated Pest Management, Irrigation and Water Conservation and Site Evaluation.
- The FCLT exam is divided into nine sections: Plant Identification, Plan Layout, Grading and Drainage, Equipment Operation, Irrigation Repair, Palm Banding, Tree Planting, Pruning and Job Evaluation.

Contact Information

For questions regarding FCLMT and FCLT, educator support, or school testing setup, contact Gary Weitermann, gweitermann@fngla.org or call (689)777-3002.