Overview

Are you a green thumb? Happiest while knee-deep in dirt? Enjoy planting and watching things grow? Based on the Colorado Master Gardener℠ curriculum, the CSU Extension Certified Gardener Mastery Badge Program is your opportunity to learn the latest gardening techniques and become an authority for sharing your gardening know-how.

Designed to be flexible and structured around your needs, the certified gardener training allows you to earn digital badges by taking individual courses, bundling courses, or completing the full program. Whether you’re a backyard gardener, interested in landscape pruning or home composting, or are a green industry professional, the CSU Extension Certified Gardener Program can be tailored to your goals.

As a student in the program, you will be able to:

- Provide knowledge-based information to help gardeners protect and enhance their home landscape
- Use gardening therapy as a tool to develop individuals, strengthen families, and build communities
- Share ideas and build relationships with other students throughout the country in an online learning community
- Illustrate your expertise and competencies through the use of digital badges

Digital Badges Illustrate Expertise

The CSU Extension Certified Gardener Program is one of the first programs at Colorado State University to utilize digital badges to represent competencies and skills learned by the student. Badges allow students to share their expertise with potential employers, clients, and community members to establish credibility and visually show proficiency in areas of study.

Delivery

Online

Tuition

Mastery Badge – $654
Quest Bundles – $108–144
Individual Quest Badge – $60
Individual Trek Badge – $40
Tuition for the full program may vary based on savings earned by bundling courses.

Time Frame

Mastery Badge – 16 weeks
Quest Bundles – 4-8 weeks
Individual Quest Badges – 1-3 weeks
Individual Trek Badges – 1-2 weeks

Badge Expiration

Badges in this program expire after three years from the date earned to ensure up to date knowledge of practices in the industry.

Learn More

online.colostate.edu/badges/certified-gardener
How Do Digital Badges Work?
Digital badges offer a new way to demonstrate your competencies to employers and others among your professional and personal network. Serving as symbols of expertise and accomplishment, badges are issued upon the successful completion of courses in particular subject areas.

How Does the Digital Badge Hierarchy Work?

Mastery Badge
Earned upon completion of all Quest badges within a program, indicating by default, completion of all Trek badges within a program. The Mastery badge is earned when the entire program’s curriculum has been completed.

Quest Badges
Building blocks for Mastery badges. They can be earned individually, or grouped together to earn a Mastery badge.

Trek Badges
Building blocks for Quest badges, and are the most granular level of badge. They can be earned individually, or grouped together to earn a Quest badge.

How Do I Use Digital Badges?
Once earned, you can share digital badges on your resume, e-portfolio and social networks. Badges are clickable, linking through to where they are officially stored in Mozilla Backpack. This allows others to see the details of your competencies and verify their authenticity as credentials earned through CSU.