Complete OnCourse

1) Check the international Certification standard document to become familiar with the criteria, requirements and ethos of GEO Certified®

2) Complete the facility Details and Information tabs in the Dashboard ‘Edit facility profile’ link. Add your colleagues in the Team tab

3) State the current practices undertaken at your facility in each of Nature, Resources, and Community. You don’t need to do all the practices to become certified, or even a required number, as some will not be suitable or appropriate for your circumstances

4) Check the box ‘Complete for...’ after all questions, even ones which don’t apply to your facility. This will progress the green bar at the top of the screen to 100% and indicate to GEO that you have addressed each question

5) In each of Nature, Resources and Community upload any relevant documents and pictures to the File Storage sections, and also write any additional information to help provide context for your verifier in the certification decision process

6) Complete all the parts of Key Data that apply to your facility. Certification decisions are not solely based on levels of consumption, or types of product and resource used, but tracking this information provides a very useful indicator of your facility, its context and its potential

7) Complete the Pesticide Log at the bottom of the Dashboard page. The previous full years’ chemical application data is required for first-time certification. Maintaining certification requires annual application data going forward

8) Submit at least three brief highlights (with pictures) to the Stories section, showcasing the best sustainability features, activities and initiatives at your facility

Contact GEO - hello@getoncourse.golf

9) Contact GEO to review certification requirements and introduce an accredited independent verifier to undertake a site-visit at your facility

Verification costs are a recommended guideline only and based on a sliding scale which may not be exact for all countries

Standard facilities (up to 35 full-length holes): USD 1250/GBP 950/EUR 1150 plus expenses

Large facilities (>36 holes+), resorts and professional tournament venues: USD 1600/GBP 1250/EUR 1500 plus expenses

Very large and complex facilities (>54 holes+): USD 2000/GBP 1600/EUR 1850 plus expenses

‘Remote verification at lower cost may be an alternative option depending on eligibility criteria and national certification policies

Certification is renewed every 3 years at cost

Pay GEO Admin Fee

10) Pay the certification administration fee – GBP 300 plus VAT* if applicable

‘If your facility is in the European Union and you have a valid VAT number, this tax is deducted at source

If you do not have a valid VAT number you will be charged the standard VAT rate of the billing region. VAT is compulsory in the UK and Isle of Man at the current rate.

GEO will invoice for this fee electronically

Annual OnCourse® Updates

GEO Certified® facilities should aim to update their OnCourse® profiles on an annual basis

This will help greatly with renewing certification, but also to allow the facility to produce an annual sustainability report through OnCourse®

The certification period is always 3 years, unless the national golf association has agreed a different policy

GEO will be delighted to keep in touch with all certified facilities and help promote these sustainability leaders around the world