How to apply for the Certificate in Practical Horticulture

You can download the course handbook and application form at the Friends web-site

www.glasgowbotanicgardens.com

or in writing to
Glasgow Botanic Gardens
Gardens Office
730, Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 0UE
WHO IS IT FOR?
The RBGE Certificate in Practical Horticulture (CPH) is for anyone who wants to acquire the fundamental practical skills of a horticulturist. The course focuses on practical skills, taught by experienced horticulturists from Glasgow Botanic Gardens. For the majority of your time in the classes you will be "doing stuff" and getting "dirty hands!"

The CPH is a formal qualification and students must pass the assessment to achieve the Certificate. Students are also expected to practice their skills in their own time in addition to the formal classes, in order to prepare for the practical assessment at the end of the course.

COURSE STRUCTURE
The programme is divided into eight units
Each unit is delivered in a teaching day (approx. 6 hours contact time) and the whole programme in eight days (plus one day for revision and one day for assessment)
A course handbook with full details of the structure, content and assessment can be downloaded from the Friends web-site

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COURSE TEACHING
A teaching day typically comprises:
- visual presentation highlighting key points
- practical demonstrations
- lots of hands-on time to practice and develop skills

Each teaching day has a specific subject, including
- Looking at plants
- Soil care
- Feeding and watering
- Seed propagation
- Vegetative propagation
- Growing media and potting
- Planting
- Pruning and training

ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION
To reflect the hands-on nature of the course, assessment is largely practical, although there is also a written element in the form of the student’s workbook.
The full day practical assessment at the end of the course covers elements of all eight units studied.
Students must have attended all eight units to be eligible for the assessment of which the practical assessment counts as 80% of the overall mark with course notes/workbook representing the remaining 20%.