Path to a PGA Tour Card

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Does One Have to Go to College?

- Short answer, no.
- Some American and International players decide to turn pro immediately.
- But nowadays, it can certainly help, especially for the top golfers...

... PGA Tour U

- In PGA Tour U, PGA Tour has removed some hurdles for the top collegiate players who begin their transition into the professional ranks when their amateur careers end.
- Players earn points from different college and professional tournaments.
- The top player gains PGA Tour membership for the rest of and the following season.
- Next four players get Korn Ferry Tour membership and unlimited PGA Tour sponsor exemptions for the next season.
- Players ranked 6-10 earn conditional Korn Ferry Tour status, an exemption into the PGA TOUR Americas North American schedule, and Second Stage Q-School exemption.

What's the Korn Ferry Tour?

- Most direct path to the PGA Tour
 - 30 PGA Tour cards are available each year through the Korn Ferry Tour's seasonlong standings.
 - The Three-Win Promotion allows Korn Ferry Tour players to directly obtain a PGA Tour card by winning three Korn Ferry Tour events in a single season.
- But how do you get to Korn Ferry?
 - Qualifying School (Q-School)
 - Multiple, more international, "minor" leagues

What's Q-School then?

- It primarily serves as an entry point to the Korn Ferry Tour.
- Q-School Logistics?
 - Pre-Qualify (entry fee)
 - Top First and Second Stage players move onto the Final Stage (Q-School Finals).
- Typically, top ~40 performers in the Finals receive Korn Ferry Status.
- Overall, the most common entry point for an amateur golfer to try to begin their career.

More miscellaneous ways as well